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THE
CHURCH BELLS OF KENT.





FIGURES
ON CLOCK BELL IN LEEDS CASTLE KENT.

THE
CHURCH BELLS OF KENT:

THEIR
Inscriptions, Founders, Uses and Traditions.

BY
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"CHURCH BELLS OF HERTFORDSHIRE," ETC., ETC.

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Dedicated

TO THE

RIGHT HON. AND MOST REV. EDWARD WHITE BENSON, D.D.,

NINETY-SECOND ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

AND

PRIMATE OF ALL ENGLAND.

718965

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PREFACE.



GUIDE-BOOKS are valuable in proportion to their accuracy. That proposition is, I think, incontrovertible—is what a German would call ‘*ein factum der monumente.*’ Secondly: It is desirable that a book should be written by one well acquainted with the subject of which the book is to treat. I admit that a book may be much more amusing (to critics) when compiled by one happily or unhappily ignorant of his subject; but in such a case what the cynic gains the truth-seeker loses.

I have made these remarks because, when nearly approaching the end of my labours, I was informed that I was forestalling some one else—one whose local and general antiquarian knowledge is far greater than mine. But as for a good many years this one particular subject has been my special study, which has not been the case, I understand,

The initial letter used above is from the Gabriel Bell at Boughton Aluph.

with the gentleman in question, I think I may honestly, and without egotism, consider myself to be perfectly competent to write about the CHURCH BELLS OF KENT, whatever may be his views or intentions for the future.

I have dealt with the subject to the best of my ability, and in doubtful cases I have been careful to consult those whose opinions on such questions are of value. The list of such is, I regret, much smaller than it was a very few years ago. We have to mourn the loss of our patriarch, the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, and of my dear good friend Mr. Thomas North ; and the year 1886 carried away with it Mr. Llewellyn Jewett, with his work on the Church Bells of Derbyshire still unfinished. I sincerely trust that the one most competent to the task, Mr. St. John Hope, may be induced to take it in hand and complete it.

My work, which by the time this book is in print will have taken almost the whole of my spare time for three years and a half, has been very considerably lightened by the kindness of Mr. Amherst D. Tyssen, in placing at my disposal the large collection of rubbings and other information gathered by him and his father, the late Mr. J. R. D. Tyssen, some twenty years ago. My main work has been, to use a commercial expression, to "post these up to date ;" to supply the churches deficient in his collection ; to take the necessary "squeezes" for casts, without which it is impossible properly to collate and settle the various groupings of bells ; and lastly, to obtain extracts from those parish accounts which are still in existence. I trust my readers will be satisfied with the result.

In all this I am glad to acknowledge the kind help of many friends—personal and other. A large proportion of the benefited clergy were good enough to reply to my list of questions as to the present state of their belfries and the “local uses” of their bells. I have thanked them individually in the third part of this book. Here I beg to thank them collectively.

For special assistance I am greatly indebted, first of all, to Mr. E. J. Wells, the secretary of the St. Paul’s Ecclesiological Society, a native of the county, and a devoted campanist and practical ringer. He has rendered me most effectual service in verifying and cast-taking. My good friend Mr. J. Meadows Cowper, of Canterbury, has been equally kind—“steeple-chasing” is not his forte—but I owe many thanks to him for very much valuable information from the records of his city, parochial and civic.

Another good friend, Dr. Francis Grayling, of Sittingbourne, has verified for me the belfries in his neighbourhood, and thereby spared me much labour; for this and for other useful information I here record my best thanks.

I am under much obligation to Mr. Herbert T. Sankey and his partner, the worthy Town Clerk of Canterbury, for kindly undertaking several searches in the Registry of Wills, and for other help.

Very many thanks are also due to the Rev. Cecil Deedes, for kind assistance in verifying the contents of several belfries; to Mr. Walford D. Selby and Mr. J. A. C. Vincent for help at the Record Office; to Mr. A. D. Tyssen for the loan of woodblocks; and last, but not least, to Dr. R. R. Sharpe, the keeper of the records of the City of London, for courteous

and valuable assistance during my examination of the documents under his care.

I am much obliged to Mr. A. S. Lawson, the present owner of the Whitechapel foundry, to Mr. S. B. Goslin, of the Cripplegate establishment, and to Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, each and all, for information kindly supplied as to work done by them in the county.

My thankfulness to all who have in any way aided me, and my satisfaction at having ended my task, is tempered by only one regret, which I mention here to anticipate any hostile critic who might fall foul of me for an omission. The regret is that I am unable to include any entries from the Sacrist rolls of Canterbury Cathedral. They exist from an early period; but the labour of examining them would be very great, and probably take several months. My own time is too fully occupied for me to dream of undertaking the work, and I have been unable to find a substitute. I did indeed try at Dr. Sheppard, but he was much too old a bird to be caught, although he very kindly promised me full assistance if I should undertake the work personally; but in view of the above facts I was reluctantly compelled to relinquish the idea. The publication of the Cathedral Archives, however, is a matter which doubtless, before long, will be taken in hand by the Kent Archæological Society.

At pp. 24 and 25 I have given the evidence for the identification of William Founder with William Dawe. Since that was in type I have found the reason why he so persistently described himself as William Founder. There was in the same ward, and at least partly contemporaneously with him,

another William Dawe, by trade a "white-tawyer," or dresser of white leather. I find him on the Hustings Rolls for 1371. It is at least possible that the two were father and son.

At p. 54 I have mentioned William Oldfeild, of Canterbury, as casting as late as 1551. Reference to the parish accounts of Bethersden (pp. 153 and 154) will show that he was still in the trade in 1557, and probably in 1561.

My ascription of the treble bell at Loose to John Harding (see p. 61) is to a certain extent confirmed by the British Museum authorities. They pronounce the coins impressed on the bell to be "side-faced groats of Henry VIII."

I have omitted at p. 44 to give the site of Hatch's bell foundry. It was, so Mr. James T. Hatch informs me, "on the north side of King's Wood, in Ulcombe (which wood extends also into the parishes of Broomfield Leeds and Langley, in a field called at this day 'the Welmonground,' evidently a corruption of 'the bellman's ground,' and the scoræ and debris remained upon the site within my time and memory." I am much indebted to this gentleman for this and other information. The date of Thomas Hatch's decease, which family tradition states as 1599, but which I have at p. 75 surmised as 1601, must be put still later. He was churchwarden of Broomfield in 1603, which is the latest date at which I can trace him as alive.

In the third part of this book I have given the number of bells existing at the time of the "Church Goods" Inventories of Edward VI. These are taken from the inventories printed in *Archæologia Cantiana*, and are prefaced by the initials T. R. E., a concise expression borrowed from "Domesday

Book," and standing for "Tempore Regis Edwardi" (Sexti, of course, not Confessoris).

Just as this sheet is going to press, I hear that the ring at Birchington has been increased to six by the addition of a new treble (by Warner and Sons), and put into thorough ringing order by S. Snelling, of Sittingbourne.

Finally, I have referred in several places in the book to information published by me in a former work, "Surrey Bells and London Bellfounders." I have thought it unnecessary to reprint what I had there given; but if any subscriber to this should wish to have the former work, he can have a copy on application to myself or my publisher, at the original subscribers' price of 16s., so far as the copies remaining unsold are sufficient to supply the demand for them.

J. C. L. STAHLSCHMIDT.

FONTENOY ROAD, BALHAM,
August, 1887.

ERRATUM.

Page 46, line 19; *for 1743 read 1473.*

PART I.
CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNT.

THE Church of England possesses within the borders of this county 597 places of divine worship. One of these—St. Paul's Church, Milton by Sittingbourne—has no bell of its own; but the Town Hall bell is used to summon the congregation, and I have therefore treated it as a church bell. On the other hand, there are three places where there are bells but (practically) no churches. Such are Buckland by Faversham, Hope in Romney Marsh, and Warden in Sheppey.

The total number of church bells is approximately 1,952. Possibly there may be a few more; but, this book being primarily and mainly antiquarian in its scope and intention, I have, in collecting the materials for it, taken but little trouble with regard to churches founded within the last quarter of a century; and, in default of better information, I have credited such with only one bell apiece—the minimum prescribed by our Book of Common Prayer.

Bells devoted absolutely to secular uses are outside the design of this work. There are many such in Kent—over

Town Halls and market-houses, etc., and possibly there may be an interesting one here and there among them; but I have only (in addition to the Milton bell above mentioned) brought one under notice—the clock bell at Leeds Castle. It has, indeed, a quasi-church connection, for the “Evening Ave” or “Curfew” peal has been rung upon it nightly for upwards of four centuries and a half. Apart from this, however, it is a most interesting bell—the only specimen in England of French workmanship that I know of. I am much indebted to Mrs. Wykeham Martin for permission to take squeezes of the ornamentation which it bears, engravings from which form the frontispiece to these pages: I shall describe the bell in due chronological order.

The total of 1,953 bells is thus distributed :

6 rings of 10	...	...	...	60
51 „ „ 8	...	...	...	408
80 „ „ 6	...	...	...	480
61 „ „ 5	...	...	...	305
26 „ „ 4	...	...	...	104
84 „ „ 3	...	...	...	252
38 „ „ 2	...	...	...	76
Single bells	...	...	...	251
Sanctus, priest's, and clock bells	...	...	...	17
				<hr/>
				1,953

Of these the largest is ‘Great Dunstan’—the clock bell at Canterbury Cathedral; the most interesting is the Leeds Castle bell just mentioned, while the most amusing one is

unquestionably the treble at Addington, with the pious medieval inscription of its predecessor reproduced, but gravely tortured into unutterable nonsense by a worthy but ignorant bell-founder in the early part of last century.

In point of date the bells may be classified as follows :

Pre-Reformation bells	...	...	98
Elizabethan, say 1570-1600	...	...	38
1601-1700	...	...	475
1701-1800	...	...	578
Present century	...	...	711
Doubtful bells	...	...	53

Such classification cannot be made very exact. For instance, there are a few bells which clearly date from the transitional period—1550 to 1570, hardly pre- and certainly not post-Reformation bells. I have, not without hesitation, placed them among the former—the 98. Again, there are a few which really belong to the Elizabethan class, although dated in the seventeenth century. Bells of transitional or “overlapping” epochs are always difficult to treat, as will be seen later on when we come to the question of the dividing line between bells with Lombardic and those with black letter inscriptions.

It is a kind of settled rule with campanists to regard as “ancients” all bells cast in or before 1600—those which in this county I have placed in the first two categories. The rule is an arbitrary one, not, to my mind, without objection, as will be gathered from what I have said above ; but in adopting

it I am only following my predecessors who have written on the subject.

The proportion of “ancients” in the county is, as will be seen, a trifle under seven per cent. of the whole. This is very poor as compared with other counties farther away from London; but it is double that in Surrey, and about the same as Hertfordshire. It may be attributed to two causes: firstly, the excessive energy of the local founders of the seventeenth century; and secondly, to the mania for peals for change-ringing which obtained during the early part of the eighteenth century. These two causes have without doubt sent many a ring of three or four heavy “ancients” literally to pot, to provide a light set of six or eight bells for the local ringers to exhibit their skill in the melodious but mysterious art of grandsire triples, triple bob major, etc., etc.

My task is now to deal with the bells of Kent in the order of their date, so far as can be positively ascertained or reasonably surmised. So much has been done during the last twenty years in carefully examining and recording the inscriptions, foundry stamps, and lettering used upon bells in the Midland and Southern counties of England, and in collecting from various sources—mainly unpublished—information bearing upon bells and their founders, that a certain amount of finality has been attained, and it is not a difficult task now to fix the date of a bell—not, as was formerly the case, by arbitrary guesswork, but by following certain established rules having reference to shape, character of inscription, lettering of same, stops used to mark the division of words, founders’ trade-marks, and initial crosses. It may be useful if I just

explain, briefly, the conclusions my brother campanists and myself have come to on these points.

SHAPE.—A bell *abnormally* long in the waist is sure to be an old bell. There is an excellent example at Burham, bearing the name of a London founder—Richard de Wymbish, whose date we know from City records to have been quite early in the fourteenth century. It must not be inferred from this that a bell which is only moderately long-waisted—*i.e.*, of the shape usual down to the end of the seventeenth century—is necessarily later in date than a very long-waisted bell. Two bells at Bradenham, Bucks, by Michael de Wymbish, probably an elder brother of the above-named Richard, and certainly earlier in date, are only of normal long-waistedness.

CHARACTER OF INSCRIPTION.—A simple inscription such as + IOHANNES or + AVE MARIA, with the letters widely spaced out so as to occupy the whole length of the inscription band, denotes an early bell. But there are also early bells with elaborate inscriptions. One at Goring, Oxon, is almost certainly not later than 1290.

LETTERING.—Inscriptions in Lombardic letters, sometimes called Gothic capitals or uncials, are, if with stops between the words, earlier than 1400 (approximately). The use of black letter came in about 1390, and the two styles prevailed side by side for about twenty years. Inscriptions in capitals came again to be used in the second quarter of the sixteenth century; but they are readily distinguishable from the earlier ones by the absence of stops. Great caution is needed in theorising from the actual lettering used; the fact that two bells have inscriptions in precisely the same letters does not

connote that they are both by the same founder. Alphabets are traced from hand to hand for centuries.

STOPS.—These are used (with scarcely an exception) with Lombardic inscriptions only. The earlier consist of two or three dots, roundels, or diamonds, placed vertically, and these developed into more elaborate combinations. Fleurs-de-lis, crowns, leaves, and other stops are used on later bells.

FOUNDRY STAMPS.—Rare with Lombardic bells, as they did not come into general use until the beginning of the fifteenth century. The assignment of them to their respective owners is the great difficulty with campanists. A patient investigation of ancient local records generally furnishes a clue sooner or later.

INITIAL CROSSES.—Very frequently these are of great assistance in determining the authorship of a bell, but as they, like the letter-stamps, passed largely from hand to hand, they are very likely to mislead any but an expert.

It is almost needless to state that in the above remarks I am dealing only with pre-Reformation bells. Since 1570 bells are almost as invariably dated as before that time they were undated.

Into the general history of church bells I have no intention of plunging. What little is known about them has been already detailed by better hands than mine. It may, I think, be almost summed up in the phrase, "Bells* have been used in the Christian Church for some fourteen centuries and a half." Whether they were invented or introduced, we don't

* Of course I am referring here to large bells—"Signa," or "Nola"—not to small hand-bells, which were used by the ancients.

know. I suspect the latter, and that we must go to the far East if we want to learn more.

How early bells were brought into England is also unknown, but I think we may fairly conclude that Kent was the first place where they were introduced, and that not long after St. Augustine's time, if not, indeed, by him. No records, however, exist alluding to the subject, so far as I am aware; and the fact that there was a detached campanile, in the Italian fashion, at Canterbury Cathedral, seems to be the only direct evidence in the matter.

Bells, however, were certainly part of the furniture of churches prior to the Norman Conquest. Apart from records of provision of such for the larger monastic establishments, there is at least one inventory of church goods extant for a small village church of quite the early part of the tenth century, and in it bells are mentioned. This, however, is, at the present day, mere matter of history, no bells now hanging having ever been claimed to be of such remote date. There are, indeed, only two which can with any reason be claimed to be of Norman work—one in the neighbouring county of Surrey, and one in Yorkshire.

Let us now take the bells of Kent in detail. The ninety-eight pre-Reformation bells must be subdivided into two groups: Firstly, those prior to 1400—thirty in number—which we will call for the nonce "Lombardic" bells; and secondly, those inscribed (mainly) in black letter, and of later date than the first group, numbering sixty-eight, which, although including the later bells inscribed in capitals, it will be most convenient to classify as "Black Letter" bells.

LOMBARDIC BELLS.—The thirty which compose this class include seven bells which are devoid of inscription, but which from their early shape are clearly to be referred to this period. We may add to these thirty half a dozen others—viz., three which have been re-cast in recent times, two of which we have records as existing a century or so ago, and one formerly in the Church of St. Mary in Castro, Dover, of which an account is preserved in the Surrenden MSS. Thus under this head we have exactly three dozen to bring under notice.

And of these, unquestionably, the two earliest are the very quaint pair at Iwade, locally (and erroneously) supposed to be two old ships' bells. I am much obliged to Mr. Francis Grayling, of Sittingbourne, for calling my attention to their peculiarities, as otherwise, being reported to me as "blank" bells, I should not have inspected them personally. They are abnormally long-waisted, with cylindrical crowns, and perfectly plain sides, and may, I consider, be dated as of the first half of the thirteenth century.

I will next briefly dismiss three other bells, also devoid of inscription, but archaic in shape; they are the bells at Coldred, Lullingstone, and Sutton by Dover. I have not seen them myself, but they have been examined by competent eyes, and are certainly to be placed in the list of early bells, not later than 1350, and perhaps much older.

An early specimen at Stodmarsh comes next for notice. It has the inscription (reversed):

+ AVE MARIA GRACIE PLENA

There are no stops between the words, but the shape is decidedly early, and the letters are placed on the shoulder-angle, which is very unusual. There is a similar instance at Bisley in Surrey. The lettering is quite of a rude type. I should place its date as not later than 1300; possibly much earlier.

Snargate, in Romney Marsh, has two bells of this period. The 3rd is the older of the two; it is inscribed:

+ SANCTE DVDSIANE

in exceedingly rudely-shaped lettering, very roughly stamped. It has no stop between the words, the letters of which are widely spaced.

The other bell, No. 1, has the inscription also widely spaced, but much better shaped lettering, and with a single-dot stop.

+ AVE • MARIA

With the next bell we are on very safe ground as to date, for it bears the founder's name. It is the 2nd at Burham, which I have already alluded to. The inscription is:

RICHARD : DE : VVYMBIS : ME :
FECIT

the lettering of which, together with the floral commencing ornament, I have engraved on Plate VII. of my "Surrey Bells and London Bell-Founders," in which I have given all the information procurable as to this early London bell-founder. His date is 1290 to 1315. The bell in question is abnormally long-waisted.

I will take next, although somewhat out of date—for it is decidedly a much later bell—the 2nd at Chalk. The inscription on this :

+ XPE : PIE : FLOS : MARIE

is in the same lettering as the Burham bell just dealt with. But I feel sure it is not by the same man. It has the initial

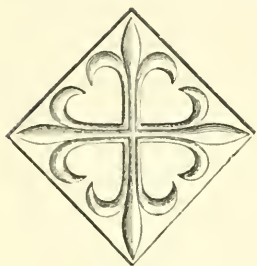


FIG. 1.

cross (Fig. 1) placed saltire wise, and it has a two instead of a three dot stop. I have traced this lettering into the hands of later founders than Richard Wymbish—viz. : William Schep, Peter de Weston, and William Revel successively, but I cannot find that this initial cross was ever used by any of the three. Peter de

Weston died in 1347, and left a cousin, Thomas, who succeeded to his business for a very short time only—as he died in the awful Black Death year, 1349. No bells have been traced to his hand, but I am inclined to assign this Chalk bell to him, on the strength of the variation in the initial cross. If I am right its date will be as nearly as possible 1348.

I now come to a group of eight bells, all clearly by the same founder, bearing the same foundry-stamp (Fig. 2.),* the same

* I find this shield depicted in Harl. MS. 6163 (a collection of armorial bearings made about the middle of the fifteenth century, and believed to have belonged to Segar, Garter King-at-Arms). It is there ascribed to "King Ethelred the Saxon." It is needless to state that armorial bearings were unknown in Saxon times ; but it is rather curious that a badge, or supposed badge, of a Saxon king should be used as a foundry-stamp in the fourteenth century. In the same MS. there is a somewhat similar shield to Fig. 3 (without the arrow), and ascribed as arms to "King Edmond."



FIG. 2.

initial cross, and inscribed in the same lettering (*vide* Plate I.). They are :

Bridge	...	...	...	3rd
Canterbury, St. Dunstan	...	...	...	5th
„ St. George	...	...	...	2nd
„ St. Peter	...	...	...	3rd
Kingstone	...	...	...	3rd
Patricbourne	...	...	...	2nd
Postling	...	...	...	2nd and 3rd

The stop used is a double square dot. They are certainly not London cast bells ; their location points to Canterbury as their birthplace, and they are clearly of mid-fourteenth century date. Can we determine their maker ? I think we can. “Ancient records” have preserved his name for us, and consequently his date. In the “Pedes Finium,” or

“Feet of Fines,” of the 18th year of Edward II. (No. 807), we have the following :

“Hec est finalis concordia facta in Curia dñi Regis apud
 “Westm̄ in Crastino s̄ci Martini Anno regni Regis
 “Edwardi filij Regis Edwardi decimo octavo coram
 “Willmo de Bereford Joñne de Mutford Willmo de Herle
 “Joñne de Stonore & Joñne de Bousser Justiċ & aliis dñi
 “Regis fidelibꝫ tunc ibi presentibꝫ Int̄ Willm le Belyetere
 “queṛ & Petrum filiū Henrici Poteman de Cobeham &
 “Isabellam v̄x̄em eius deforē de vno mesuagio cum ptiñ
 “in Cantuar̄ Unde pl̄m convenōnis suū fuit int̄ eos in
 “eadem Curia Scitt̄ qđ p̄dēi Petrus & Isabella recogn̄
 “p̄dēm mesuagiū cum ptiñ esse Jus ip̄ius Will̄i Ut illud
 “quod idem Will̄ms h̄et de dono p̄dēoꝝ Petri & Isabelle
 “Habend̄ & Tenend̄ eidem Willmo & h̄er̄ suis de Capit̄
 “dñis feodi illius p̄ s̄vicia que ad p̄dēm mesuagiū p̄tinent
 “imp̄p̄m Et p̄terea ijdem Petrus & Isabella concesserunt
 “p̄ se & h̄er̄ ip̄ius Isabelle qđ ip̄i warantizabūt p̄dēo
 “Willmo & h̄edibꝫ suis p̄dēm mesuagiū cum ptiñ
 “cont̄ oīes homines imp̄p̄m. Et p̄ hac recogniōne
 “warantia fine & concordia idem Will̄ms dedit p̄dēis
 “Petro & Isabelle Centum solidos argenti.

“Kanē.”

Here we have, without doubt, the author of this group of bells. At what part of his business career William le Belyetere purchased the house in Canterbury it is impossible to say, but the record shows that he was there in 1325.

He places his foundry-stamp sometimes on the inscription band and sometimes on the crown of the bell. The bell at

St. George's Church, Canterbury, has also on the crown a small shield with a plain cross upon it, which I shall recur to presently.

The bells at Patrixbourne and Postling have each of them this shield (Fig. 3.), of which I am at a loss to make out the meaning. I have been told that it is to be found "somewhere in the county," in some stained-glass in a church window, and that tradition assigns it as armorial bearings to Earl Godwin. This last is, of course, complete nonsense. But I should like to know if the first piece of information be correct, and whether it throws any light upon the meaning of the shield.

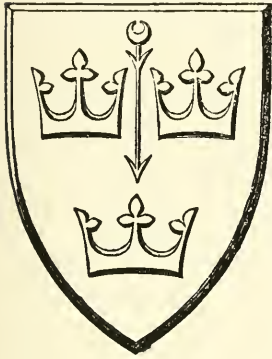


FIG. 3.

William le Belyetere apparently had no successor, the next Kentish bell-founder traceable being too far off in point of date, and moreover, being almost certainly not an east Kent man at all. With him his foundry-stamp disappears, but the small shield with the plain cross remained in Canterbury, for it turns up on bells some 150 years later in date. The initial cross, the shield with three crowns, and the letter-stamps found their way into the eastern counties—most probably to Norwich. There are no less than thirty-eight bells in Norfolk inscribed in this lettering, and with the cross, and three of them have the shield (Fig. 3). One of them has also a well-known shield with three bells, the trade stamp at one time of the Braziers, bell-founders of Norwich, which is strong evidence that the alphabet was at one time in

their possession. The inscriptions on nearly the whole of the thirty-eight are peculiar to East Anglia. There are also some bells in Suffolk—so I learn from Dr. Raven's notes—with this lettering and cross, and one of them at least has the shield (Fig. 3).

But the initial cross did not remain at Norwich. It migrated somehow to the Midland Counties. There is a cross figured by Mr. North (Leicester, No. 71, and Lincoln, No. 95), which I have every reason to believe is the same. It occurs on bells cast by the Newcomes at the Leicester foundry in the middle of the sixteenth century, mostly "alphabet" bells. Whether the letter-stamps went with the cross, I do not know for certain, but it would seem probable that they did not, or Mr. North would surely have mentioned it, as they are figured in the "Church Bells of Norfolk."

We have next to notice a pair of bells, only one of which is now to be found in Kent; it is the solitary little tinkler at Longfield, and bears the inscription:

+ WELGDMVS: REVEL: ME: FECH

It is only $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and probably owes its preservation to its inaccessibility. The maker of it, William Revel, was a London bell-founder of the middle of the fourteenth century, and there are several specimens of his handiwork still in existence. What little is known of him will be found in my "Surrey Bells," p. 25.

The other bell was the 1st at Stanford, which has disappeared. It also bore William Revel's name. The record of this was preserved by a worthy Kentish antiquary, Bryan

Faussett, of Heppington, who flourished about 1750, and who examined a large number of the belfries of East Kent, and has left a careful account of his investigations, a copy of which was very kindly made for Mr. Tyssen by his descendant, the late Mr. Godfrey Faussett, some twenty years ago.

The next pair of bells claim also London parentage, and a similar date. One of them (recast by Mears, in 1862) was the tenor at Sutton at Hone, inscribed :

+ TEMPORA : EVLEVRA : DVM :
PYLSO : CESSO : MARIA

The other is the present 4th at Bethersden, inscribed :

+ IN : MVLTIS : ANNIS : RESONET :
CAMPAÑA : IOHANNIS

The cross and lettering are given on Plate VI. of "Surrey Bells." They had two successive owners, Peter de Weston and William Revel just mentioned, and by one of them these bells must have been cast. Perhaps for choice I would select Peter, as he was decidedly in a much larger way of business than William. More than that it is impossible to say. I may mention here that Peter de Weston's date is 1328 to 1348.

The treble bell at Hartley bears the name of its maker, Robert Rider, a London founder, 1351-1386. The lettering, small, but pretty, is given on Plate IX. of "Surrey Bells."

We now come to a group of three bells—two of which still exist : the third has been gone for nearly two centuries—and we only know of its existence from the Surrenden MSS. The

two are the 4th at Holy Cross, Canterbury, and the 2nd at Snave. They both bear the same inscription in very handsome crowned capitals :

+ STEPHANVS NORTONE DE
KENT ME FECIT

See Plate II. for specimens of his lettering and his crowned initial cross and crowned stop. This last is a good specimen of the development from the three vertical dots of which I spoke at p. 6.

The 3rd bell was formerly in the church in Dover Castle ; it bore an inscription that it was the gift of Robert de Aston in the fourth year of Richard II., and the maker's name, as will be given in full detail in the third part of this book.

Stephen Norton is a bit of a puzzle. That he was a native of the county is quite clear ; the family appears to have been a widely spread one, and the Christian name, Stephen, was common among them. A Stephen Norton had the Royal license to found a chantry at Smarden in 1392,* but I don't think this was our bell-founding friend. The question is, where he carried on his business. If it was within the county, why does he so carefully call himself " of Kent " ? I was at one time inclined to look upon him as a London founder, but at present I can only give all the information about him which I possess, and leave the reader to draw his own conclusions. We don't know where he learned his trade—it *might* have been with William of Canterbury, but I think their respective

* Haslewood's " Antiquities of Smarden."

dates are too far apart, and, further, there is no similarity in their style of lettering.

The earliest mention we get of him is in 1363, and it is in the "Feet of Fines," as follows :

"Hec est finalis concordia fēā in Cuř Dñi Regⁱ apud Westm̄
 "a die Sēi Joh̄is Baṽte in quindecim dies Anno Regni Regⁱ
 "Edwardi 1cū a conquestu tricesimo sexto coram Roḥto
 "de Thorp Joḥe Moubray & Joḥe Knyvet Justiē Et
 "postea a die Sēi Mich̄is in quindecim dies anno Regni
 "ejusdem Regis Edwardi supradō concessa & recordata
 "coram eisdem Justiē & aliis dñi Regⁱ fidelibꝫ tunc ibi
 "p̄sentibꝫ Int̄ Jacobū Mathewe de Stapulherst quer̄ &
 "Steph̄m de Norton Brasiere & Joḥnam ux̄em ejus
 "deforē de octo acris t̄re cū p̄tiñ in Goutherst Unde p̄t̄m
 "convencois suū fuit int̄ eos in eadem cuř scilt qđ p̄dēa
 "Steph̄us & Joḥna recogñ p̄dcam t̄ram cū p̄tiñ esse jus
 "ip̄ius Jacobi ut illam quam idem Jacobus h̄et de dono
 "p̄dcoꝝ, Steph̄i & Joḥne h̄end & tenend eidem Jacobo &
 "heř suis de capīt dñis feodi illius p̄ s̄vicia que ad p̄dcam
 "t̄ram p̄tinent imppam Et p̄tea iidem Steph̄us & Joḥna
 "concesserunt p se & her ip̄ius Joḥne qđ ip̄i warant p̄dco
 "Jacobo & heř suis p̄dcam t̄ram cū p̄tiñ cont̄ om̄es hōies
 "imppm Et p hac recogñ war̄ fine & concordia idem
 "Jacobus dedit p̄dc̄is Steph̄o & Joḥne decem marcas
 "argenti.

"Kanc."

Here we have Stephen Norton selling land in Goudhurst. In the following year there is another entry, in which we find him buying houses and land in Boughton Monchelsea :

" Hec est finalis concordia ffa in Cūr dñi Regⁱ apud Westm̄
 " in octabis Sēi Hillarii Anno Regni Regⁱ Edwardi tciⁱ a
 " conquestū tricesimo septimo coram Robto de Thorp
 " Johē Moubray & Johē Knyvet Justicē & aliis Dñi Regⁱ
 " fidelib⁵ tunc ibi p̄sentib⁵ Intⁱ Stephm de Norton Bel-
 " makere quēr et Waltm Totynham & Agñ uxēm ejus
 " deforcⁱ de duob' mesuagiis sexaginta & quinq⁵ acris t̄re
 " & quatuor acris prati cū ptiū in Bocton Monchensy unde
 " p̄ltm conuenēois suū fuit intⁱ cos in eadem cur̄ scilt qđ
 " p̄dēi Waltus & Agñ recogñ p̄dēa mesuagiā quinquaginta
 " & quinq⁵ acras t̄re & p̄dīm pratū cum ptiū de p̄dcis teñ
 " esse jusi p̄ius Stephi ut illa que idem Stephus h̄et de dono
 " p̄dcoꝝ Walti & Agñ Et illa remiserunt & quietumclām de
 " ip̄is Walto & Agñ & her ip̄ius Agñ p̄dco Stepho & heī
 " suis imppm Et p̄tea iidem Waltus & Agñ concesserunt
 " p se & heī ip̄ius Agñ qđ ip̄i warant p̄dco Stepho & heī
 " suis cadem teñ cū p̄tiū cont^a om̄es h̄oīes imppm Et con-
 " cesserunt iidem Waltus & Agñ p̄dco Stepho decem acras
 " t̄re cū p̄tin de p̄dcis teī residuas et remiserunt & quietum-
 " clām quicquid h̄uerunt in eisdem decem acris terre cum
 " p̄tiū ad t̄m̄n vite ip̄ius Agñ p̄dco Stepho & heī suis
 " imppm Et p hac recogñ concessione remissione quietaclām
 " waī fine & concordia idem Stephus dedit p̄dēis Walto &
 " Agñ viginti marcas argenti
 " Kanc."

Among the Kent Archæological Society's charters there is
 one printed in "Arch. Cant.," vol. x., p. 323. It is dated
 48 Ed. III. (1375), and is a conveyance by John de Blakesole
 and Emma his wife, to Roger Dygge, Stephen de Nortone,
 and James de Peckham, of a messuage, a watermill, thirty-

two acres of land, and some annual rents in Wrotham ; Stephen being clearly a feoffee or trustee for Peckham. But it is, although probable, not equally clear that he was the bell-founder.

As Stephen Norton was, on the testimony of the Dover Castle bell, living in 1381, we may safely place his date as 1363-81. We know, too, for certain, that he was buried in Maidstone Parish Church. John Maplesden, by his will, dated 1528, requests to be buried in that church, "next to the tomb of Stephen Norton, bell-founder." This is all the direct information regarding him that I have been able to trace. Among the Chancery inquisitions for the 17 Richard II. (1394) is one which may refer to him or not. It is an inquiry held in accordance with a writ "*Ad quod damnum*," and it reports that it will not be to the King's damage or prejudice if he should permit Stephen Norton, of Chart by Sutton Valence, Stephen, the son of the said Stephen, and others, to grant and assign to the convent of the Holy Trinity at "Modynden," certain messuages, lands and rents in money and in kind, in the parishes of Staplehurst, Headcorn, and Bocton Monchesy : the lands in the last-named parish being described as nine acres of meadow held of the Prior of Christ Church, Canterbury, as of his manor of Hollingbourne, at an annual rent of 18d., and certain accustomed services. Now, the fact that in 1364 we found Stephen Norton, the bell-founder, buying lands in that parish rather argues in favour of his identity with Stephen Norton, of Chart Sutton. But even if it be so, I do not think his foundry can have been at Chart Sutton. In those days bell-founding was not carried on in

remote country villages, but in the towns, and assuming the identity of the two Stephens, I would rather suggest that in his old age he had retired from trade and taken up his abode at Chart Sutton. Altogether I think Maidstone to have been the likeliest place for his foundry. The Rev. W. Scott, of Boughton Monchelsea, has been kind enough, in reply to a query as to there being any tradition of a bell-foundry there, to say that there is none, but that there is a Bell Wood between Otham and Maidstone, on the borders of the parish. It is quite possible that this may indicate the spot whence Norton got his fuel, and so is some corroboration, although slight, of my theory as to Maidstone.

It is clear he had no successor, but the stamps which he used found their way to London, and are traceable to the successive possession of two or three bell-founders there of the fifteenth century.

There are—or rather were, for one has been recast—two bells at Kingsdown by Sittingbourne, of this century. One—the smaller—is blank, the other (the recast one) was dedicated to St. Katharine. Cross and lettering alike are unknown to me, and I am unable to hazard a guess as to its maker. The stop is a “two dot” one.

A bell—the 3rd—at Ringwould, is of the latter part of the fourteenth century. The inscription, with a cinque-foil stop between the words, is :

+ IOHANNES EST NOMEN EIVS

The lettering is graceful and of much the same shape—only much smaller—as that on Plate III., which I shall notice presently.

A bell formerly at Petham (the 3rd of the ring), on the authority of Mr. Bryan Faussett, should be mentioned here. From the nature of the inscription—"VOCOR CAMPANA IOHANNIS"—it was almost certainly a Lombardic bell.

I now come to a group of five bells :

Burmarsh	...	...	... Treble
"	...	...	... 2nd
Rodmersham	...	...	... Treble
St. Mary's	...	...	... 2nd
Seal	...	...	... 4th

The first of these is devoid of inscription ; but Mr. Tyssen states that it is apparently by the same founder as the second. Bells with the cross and lettering which these bear are not uncommon in the home counties, and are clearly London made. The stop is invariably a fleur-de-lis (Fig. 4). The cross is Fig. 5. The lettering will be found on Plate III.



FIG. 4.

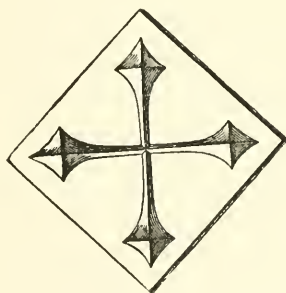


FIG. 5.

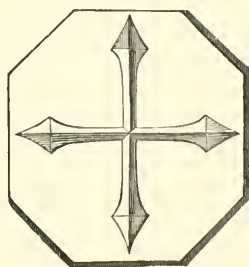


FIG. 5A.

I have given in the "Church Bells of Hertford" my reasons for assigning these bells to William Burford of London, and I see no cause for altering my opinion. They are decidedly

the work of his period—1371-92—and I know of no other founder to whom to ascribe them. It may be interesting to note that he was the first Londoner to call himself “Belſeter;” before his time they all styled themselves “potter” or “brazier.” This was not the case in the country—William of Canterbury, may be noted as a case in point.

I have printed William Burford’s will—a lengthy but interesting document—together with what other information I have found respecting him, in “Surrey Bells.” He was succeeded in his business by his son Robert, with whom I shall have to deal later on, as he belongs to the “Black Letter” period.

My tale of thirty-six Lombardic period bells is now complete with one exception, and that is a bell which, I regret to say, is no longer in existence. It was the former treble at Cuxton, recast a few years ago. It bore the inscription :

+ CRISTVS PERPETVE DEI
NOBIS GAVDIA VITE

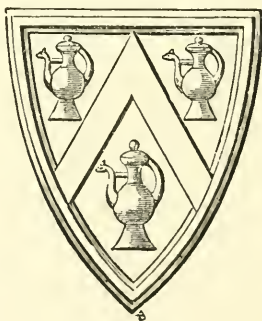


FIG. 6.

without any stop between the words ; but it had on the crown, three times repeated, a shield (Fig. 6) bearing a chevron

between three laver-pots, which stamps it as of this date, *i.e.*, the close of the 14th century.

There is a bell at Little Hornead, Herts, inscribed in the same lettering and with a wheel-like stop, but without the shield on the crown, and with a different cross. There

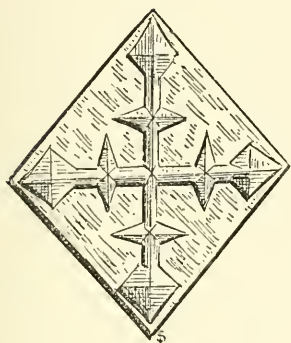


FIG. 7.

are other bells in Kent with this shield and with the same cross as the Cuxton bell (Fig. 7), but inscribed in black letter; some of which can be absolutely placed as to their authorship, others which were, until quite lately, a puzzle to me; but recent researches at Guildhall have brought to light a new bell-founder of this period (1395-1420), William Wodeward, and I think the

Cuxton and Little Hornead bells must be his handywork. I will merely advance the theory here, and leave further mention of him until I come to deal with the other bells which I consider must be his.

BLACK LETTER BELLS.—We have now to pass under review the remainder of the bells of the pre-Reformation period. They number eighty-one—of which there are sixty-eight still hanging; eight more have disappeared recently; and there are five in addition, of which record has been preserved by Mr. Bryan Faussett.

There does not appear to have been any local foundry in Kent during the fifteenth century; all the bells of that date come from London sources, with two exceptions, one a French bell, the other from the Midland Counties—probably Notting-

ham. When we come to the sixteenth century, however, we find the larger proportion are of local workmanship.

The eighty-one bells are mostly inscribed in black letter smalls, with Lombardic initial letters, and in many instances the latter are those which were used by some of the fourteenth-century bell-founders. In the sixteenth century—as I have before stated—inscriptions entirely in capitals come in again. The bells, therefore, may be divided into two categories, “Black Letter” and “Later Lombardic.” I now propose to treat these in detail, subdividing them into groups, and assigning each group to its founder according to the best of my ability. They are rather difficult to treat exactly in order of date, as there were synchronizing bell-foundries in London all through the period with which we now have to deal.

The first craftsman that we have to mention is one who belongs to the transitional period between Lombardic and black letter bells; indeed, it was the determination of his date which mainly contributed to fixing the former. There are, however, no Lombardic bells by him in Kent, and so I am treating him as a black letter man. His name is William Dawe, and his date, approximately, 1385 to 1418. He has hitherto been known to campanists as William Founder, from the circular stamp (Fig. 8) which he uses as a stop, and there have been several shots made at his surname. I am rather proud of having solved the mystery. My friend Mr. Walter Rye very kindly allowed me to look through a batch of old



FIG. 8.

title-deeds relating to property at the East-end of London,* and belonging to the Cornwallis family ; among them I found two, dated respectively 1393 and 1395, relating to the same premises, and executed in the presence of the same four witnesses, one of whom stands described in the earlier deed as “ William Dawe Foundr,” and in the later one as “ William Founder.” This is about as strong evidence of identity as can be had, I consider, at this lapse of time.

I find mention of him on the rolls of the Hustings Court, at Guildhall, as late as 1418, again as witness to a deed. It was usual in the City for deeds to be executed in the presence of the alderman and leading men of the ward, and I take it that William Dawe’s non-appearance in that capacity after 1418 is fairly good proof of his death. I have failed to find his will. The wills proved in the Archdeacon’s Court of London are missing for a long period from 1420, which no doubt accounts for my failure. I have reason to believe that he left a son—John—who, however, did not follow the parental calling, but apparently retired to the then pleasant suburb of Whitechapel, to live at ease on the money accumulated by his father. He died in 1435, requesting by his will, dated 2nd January, 1434, to be buried in the Church of St. Mary Matfelon, next to his mother-in-law—“ iuxta matrem uxoris mee.” He leaves everything to his wife—Alice—who, however, survived him but a few months, her will being proved in the following year by the sole executor, Richard Hille, whom we shall have to notice presently as a London bell-founder.

* The part of the City which was inhabited by the bell-founders all through the Middle Ages.

To return to William Dawe, the four bells in Kent which bear his stop (Fig. 8), are the 1st and 2nd at Downe, the 3rd at Upper Hardres, and the 2nd at Otham. The initial cross

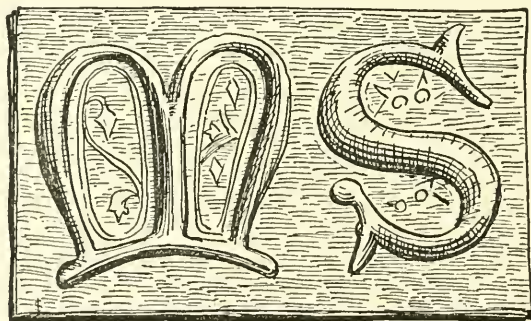


FIG. 9.

on three of these is the well-known Fig. 9. The exception is the 2nd at Downe, which has the cross (Fig. 7) already attributed to William Wodeward. It is to be noticed, too, that the bell at Upper Hardres has also upon the crown four impressions of the shield with the three laver-pots (Fig. 6). The use of the same

stamps, by apparently two contemporaneous founders, is very puzzling, as will be seen when I come to deal with the next group. But as to the four bells under review, there can be no possible mistake.*

It remains to note that the capital letters used on all four are alike. I give two of them here as a specimen :



* William Founder's circular stamp certainly survived him for a long time. Mr. A. H. Cocks, whom I am glad to welcome as a working campanist, doing good service in Bucks, has found it used as a bell at Radcliff in that county, inscribed to St. George, and probably from one of the Reading foundries of the sixteenth century.

They passed into other hands after Dawe's demise, as I shall show presently. The "smalls," however, vary; they are all of them disproportionately large as compared with the capitals; but those on the Upper Hardres bell are not quite so bad as the other three.

I pass to a group of bells which, as I have before mentioned, constitute a severe puzzle. They are, in addition to the treble (formerly) at Cuxton, dealt with under the Lombardic bells,

{	Kemsing	...	...	...	1st
	St. Paul's Cray	...	...	...	2nd
{	Canterbury, St. Paul	...	...	...	3rd
	„ St. Peter	...	...	...	2nd
{	Brenzett	...	...	...	3rd
	Southfleet	...	...	...	5th

It will be noticed that I have bracketed these both to left and to right. The left hand brackets denote similarity of initial cross; those to the right similarity of capital letters. The first two bells bear the cross Fig. 7. The next three have the cross Fig. 10, while the Southfleet bell has a similar but larger cross (Fig. 11).

As regards capital letters, those on the Kemsing bell are the same as at Cuxton—quite small. The next two have them of medium size, the same as those used by William Dawe and figured above. The next two have a very much larger and handsomer set altogether; and the same capitals, but in this instance crowned, appear on the Southfleet bell. With respect to the black-letter "smalls," Kemsing and

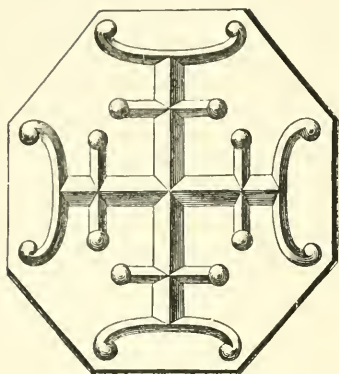


FIG. 10.

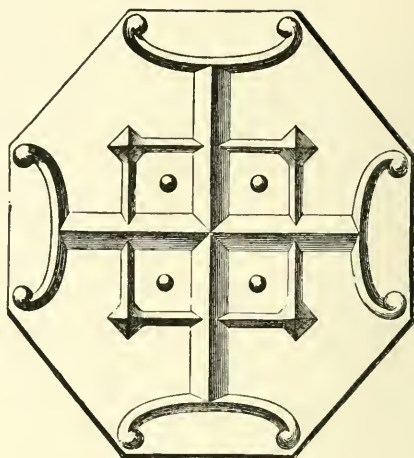


FIG. 11.

Canterbury St. Paul have comparatively small ones; the other four have the same *largest* ones as are used by William

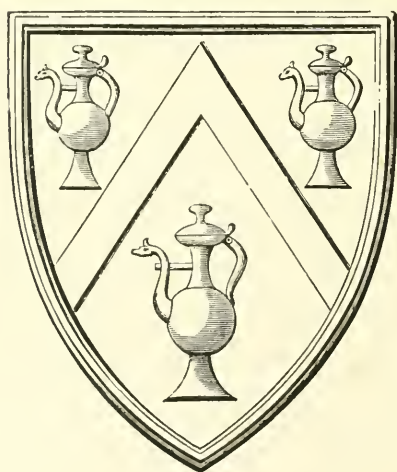


FIG. 12.

Dawe, which, as regards the St. Paul's Cray bell, are utterly out of proportion, but with the other three harmonize very well. As regards other ornamentation, the Kemsing and St. Paul's Canterbury bells have the small laver-pot shield (Fig. 6) on the inscription-band; the St. Paul's Cray has it four times on the crown, as has also the bell at Canterbury St. Peter's, but only

three times; while the Brenzett bell has a much larger

version of the same shield (Fig. 12), also three times on the crown. I am inclined to think that this shield was the badge of the "Bellemakers' Guild" which flourished about this time, and that the use of it was probably free to all members.

I think my readers will agree with me that we have in these seven (including Cuxton) bells as pretty a puzzle to solve as can well be found. It is quite possible that some of them may be by William Dawe; but I have elsewhere declined to reckon any bells as his that do not bear his foundry-stamp, and to that decision I adhere. If they are not his, I know of no other founder than William Wodeward to whom they can be ascribed; and as he certainly survived William Dawe, it is quite on the card that some of the latter's stamps should have passed into his possession. Or there may well have been a partnership between the two, which would account for the simultaneous use of the same stamps.

It is impossible without confusion to deal with the fifteenth century London bell-founders in strict order of date. I propose rather to follow now the various successive owners of a particular set of capital letters, so far as I am able to identify them. I had thought at one time that the letters in question were identical with those sometime used by William Dawe, and I stated so in a note at p. 20 of "Church Bells of Hertfordshire." Judging from rubbings, my statement appeared correct, but I have since been able to get casts of Dawe's lettering—especially the S—which is, as my reader will see, very different from that in the alphabet now under consideration, of which I give two examples. I find these stamps first in the possession of a founder whose initials,

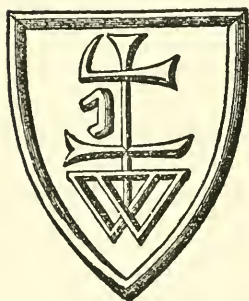


FIG. 13.



FIG. 14.

judging from the shield Fig. 13, were J. W. ; and as the only individual whom I can find connected with the trade and with those initials is John Walgrave—some time foreman to William Dawe—I have no hesitation in putting them down as his. Dawe's stamps, as I have already stated, probably passed to William Wodeward (who, however, only survived Dawe for a year or two) ; but I strongly suspect that the business connection went to Walgrave, bells with this trade-mark being frequent. The examples in Kent are nine in number, to which may be added one (Denton treble) which

has been broken up and sold for old metal within the last twenty years. The nine are :

Adisham	...	...	... 4th
Fairfield	...	...	... 1st and 2nd
Ightham	...	...	... 2nd and 3rd
Stanstead	...	...	... 1st
Stelling	...	...	... 2nd and 3rd
Wychling	...	...	... 1st

The initial cross on all of them is Fig. 14. The smalls on them differ—two different sets being used.

I have found no trace at Guildhall of Walgrave, the only record of his existence being the mention of him in the will of John Plot, in 1408 ("Surrey Bells," p. 46) ; but I do not think that his business career was a very long one : I should estimate it as from 1418 to 1440 or thereabouts. Life was short in the Middle Ages, and he must have been about sixty in the latter year. There is no question, however, that he had a decidedly good business ; and, of course, it is quite possible he was on his own account before William Dawe left this world.

In connection with the next owner of these stamps, the 2nd and 3rd bells at Denton and the former 3rd at Ryarsh come under review. I am exceedingly concerned to note the disappearance of this last mentioned bell, as the dedication of it was, I believe, quite unique. It bore the inscription :

*Sancta Ursula Cum Sodalibus Huius Orate
Pro Nobis.*

All these three bells have the same initial cross as the last group, the same capitals and the smaller set of minuscules used by John Walgrave; but they bear a new foundry-stamp (Fig. 15), the letters on which doubtless perpetuate the initials of its owner. The two Denton bells have in addition the shield with three lions passant (Fig. 16).

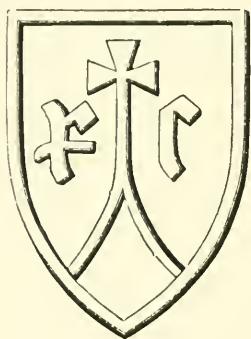


FIG. 15.

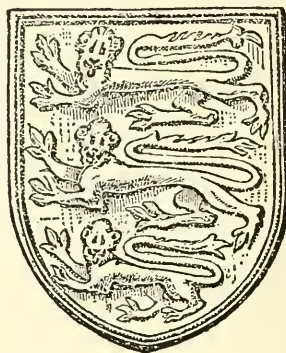


FIG. 16.

I can only offer a suggestion as to the author of this group. There are two men connected with the trade about this time who have these initials—Robert Crowch and Richard Cresswell. The former is named as a legatee in the will of William Powdrell, citizen and bell-maker, who died in 1438; the latter turns up in the will of Richard Hille, founder, dated in 1440; but as Richard was still only an apprentice at his master's death, while Robert was a journeyman two years earlier, I think the last-named is the most likely to have been the R. C. we are in search of. Perhaps before this book goes to press I may find something in the Hustings rolls

to solve the difficulty. If not, Robert and Richard are both pretty men, and I leave my readers to choose whichever they like.

The next group is one of four bells :

Burmarsh	...	...	... 3rd
Fairfield...	...	...	... 3rd
St. Mary's	...	...	... Treble
Stone in Oxney	...	...	... 3rd

and they are clearly connected with the last two groups, for they have the same initial cross and capital letters, while the black letter smalls are identical with the larger of the two sets used by Walgrave. They have, however, distinguishing marks in the following stamps (Figs. 17 and 18). Bells from

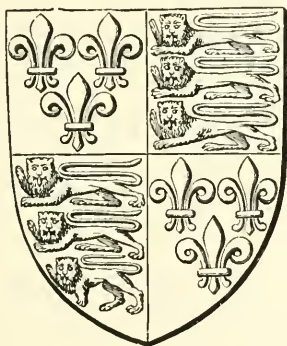


FIG. 17.

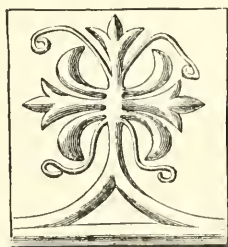


FIG. 18.

this foundry are well known and distinguished as "Royal Arms" bells. Evidence given in Dr. Raven's "Church Bells of Cambridge" and in the "Church Bells of Herts" leaves, I think, little room for doubt that they are the handiwork of one I. Danyell, who flourished about the middle of the fifteenth

century. There are several of them which bear the initials I. D., but none in Kent.*

I must now leave this set of stamps for a time and try back half a century, and take up the sequel of the stamps used by William Burford before mentioned. He was succeeded in 1392 by his son Robert, and to this latter I have no hesitation in ascribing the following group of bells in Kent :

St. Martin, Canterbury	...	...	3rd
Cowden	...	...	3rd
Frindsbury	...	...	3rd
Hartlip	...	...	5th
Nonington	...	...	2nd
St. Mary's	...	...	3rd

to which may be added the former 3rd at Langley, recently recast or replaced by a modern bell. These are all "black letter" bells, but the capitals are those used by the elder Burford, and they have either the same cross (Fig. 5) or one identical in shape, but on an octagonal instead of a quadrangular stamp (Fig. 5A). They are further differenced by having on them also the cross Fig. 1, which somehow or other had passed into Robert Burford's possession. The

* I can find no positive trace of this Danyell at Guildhall; but a deed enrolled there in 1435 mentions John Danyell, Senior, of Edelmeton (Edmonton), which predicates a John Danyell, Junior. Again, in 1496 is mention of Jerard Danyell, fishmonger, whose mother, "Alice, wife of John Danyell," was buried in the Church of St. Margaret Moses in October, 1481. If the inscription on her tomb was "quondam uxor" (*i.e.*, widow, not wife), probably we have here the man. Gerard Danyell's will was enrolled in 1512, and he had property in Lime Street, which is parlously close to the bell-founders' quarter.

capitals on the Langley bell were crowned—like Stephen Norton's.

Robert Burford's date is quite established—1392 to 1418. From his will, dated and proved in the latter year, which I have printed at length in "Surrey Bells," it would appear that he died childless, and that the foundry with its stamps passed into other hands. From the rolls at the Hustings Court at Guildhall, I find that his widow, Margaret, married one John Dommer, who is described in later deeds as a bell-maker, and whom I strongly suspect to have been Burford's foreman. Re-marriages, such as this, seem to have been almost universal in the Middle Ages. I suppose they were a necessity for the sake of protection.*

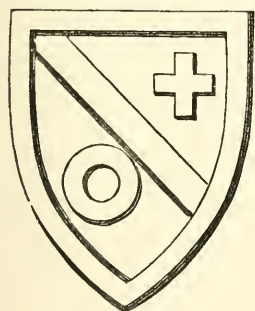


FIG. 19.

The stamps used by Robert Burford passed into the hands of a founder who uses the trade-stamp Fig. 19; and as I find in the City records very shortly after 1418 one Richard Hille mentioned—who was most certainly a bell-founder—I have every reason for believing him to have been the man. My arguments for this will be found in "Surrey Bells," p. 54. He was, as I have already mentioned, sole

* I do not think Dommer continued the business. The widow must have been very well-to-do, and there was probably no need. Clearly the stamps passed into other hands, as will be shown directly. Dommer occurs at intervals on the Hustings rolls as late as 1438, and he was evidently a man of consequence in the ward. The house he and his wife lived in was known by the sign of "The Helm on the Hoop," and I trace its transfer from hand to hand for many years. It was in Algate Street, outside the City walls, *i.e.*, in Portsoken Ward.

executor to Alice, widow of John Dawe, which is to my mind strong evidence for connecting the said John with the bell-founding trade, and consequently establishing him as the son of William Founder.

There are only two bells left in Kent which bear the above trade-stamp; the 2nd at Luddesdown and the 3rd at Staple. But we know of three more; the 3rd at the desecrated Church of St. Mary Magdalene at Canterbury, sold, it is presumed, for old metal when the church was destroyed; the 4th at Cheriton, lately recast, and one of which Mr. Bryan Faussett has preserved the record; the 4th at Great Chart.

Of these the Luddesdown bell has—without any accom-

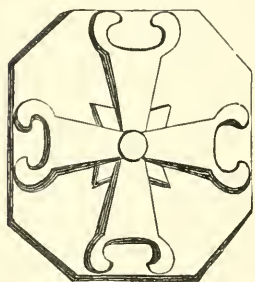


FIG. 20.

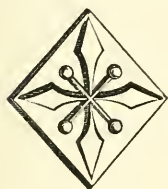
panying legend—a cross (Fig. 5), the foundry-stamp (Fig. 19), fleur-de-lis (Fig. 4), the cross here given (Fig. 20), and another fleur-de-lis, all equally spaced round the haunch. The Staple bell has the crosses Figs. 5 and 20, and the foundry-stamp; and the lettering, both capitals and smalls, is the same as that used by Robert Burford. The

Cheriton bell was alike in every particular. The bell at St. Mary Magdalene, Canterbury—dedicated to St. Katharine—had also two (doubtless the same) crosses. Of the bell at Great Chart no note has been preserved as to the cross or crosses—it had the foundry-stamp and the motto—

Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata

Richard Hille's will, dated and proved in 1440, is printed at length in "Surrey Bells." He left a wife and daughter

both named Johanna; to the latter he bequeathed two hundred marks, to the former the residue of his estate after the usual pious bequests and sundry legacies. The daughter married Henry Jordan, of whom we shall hear a good deal presently; the widow carried on the business. Among the town records of Faversham, there is a contract dated 28th March, 19 Henry VI. (1441), between "Johane Hille of Londone, widewe," and the parishioners of Faversham, being a warranty for the usual term of a year and a day of five new bells lately supplied by her.



Bells are found with the foundry-stamp Fig. 19 on them, with a cross on a small lozenge-shaped stamp (here given) above the shield. These, I have no doubt, are Johanna Hille's work. There are none in Kent, however, at the present day.

There is another document among the Faversham archives—a similar guarantee for a new tenor bell—but this time the contract is with "Johane Sturdy of Londone, widewe." It is dated 38 Henry VI. I think we may take for granted the identity of the two "widewes," and conclude that Johanna Hille had taken to herself a second husband; and, again widowed, had, as before, still stuck to the business. The second husband was one John Sturdy whom I find mentioned on the Hustings rolls in 1449, living in the bell-founder's parish of St. Botolph, Aldgate.

There is a bell at Stoke d'Abernon, Surrey, which has the founder's initials, I. S., placed on either side of the reverse of a silver penny of this period, the coin having placed above it

the same lozenge-shaped cross as I have above ascribed to Johanna Hille. There are also two bells at Watlington, Norfolk, with the same coin and superimposed cross. The Stoke d'Abernon lettering is found in Essex in connection with bells of this group; that on the Watlington bells is the same as used by Stephen Norton (Plate II.). I take these bells to be the works of Johanna Sturdy during her *second* widowhood.

At St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Canterbury, now pulled down, was formerly a bell (the 2nd) which, with a dedication to St. Peter—the capitals of which are those ascribed to the Burfords and R. Hille (the "smalls" differ)—had the initials

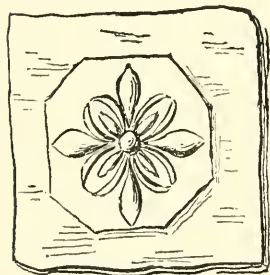


FIG. 21.

I. S. on either side of the silver penny just mentioned. The initial cross on this is Fig. 21. There was formerly, also, a bell with the same coin and initials at St. John's Church, Margate, which we know, by the donor's name upon it, to have been cast about the middle of the fifteenth century. I don't think I shall be wrong if I place these

two bells to the credit of John Sturdy, Johanna's second husband, and not improbably Richard Hille's foreman while the latter lived. The cross (Fig. 21) evidently came into his possession after the death of William Powdrell, in 1439, as will be noticed presently when I come to mention that bell-founder's extant specimens. The consensus of dates which I have adduced makes very much in favour of my original theory as to the ownership of the stamps used in connection with this group of bells.

I will dismiss next a group of bells connected with the last three groups by lettering ; but I am unable, at present, to do more than “guess” at the founder’s name. They are :

Brook	...	...	... 2nd
Newnham	...	...	... 4th
Penshurst	...	...	... 3rd and 4th
Sandhurst	...	...	... 4th

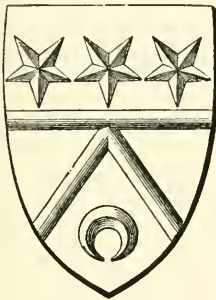


FIG. 22.

and they all bear the foundry-stamp, Fig. 22. The Brook bell, devoid of inscription, has Stephen Norton’s cross (Plate II.), but uncrowned. The Newnham bell has the same cross, but crowned, and the capitals are those used by Norton—it has also the cross, Fig. 1. The inscription is a somewhat unusual one—

Ad Celi Syna Perducet Nos Katerina

The Penshurst bells differ between themselves. The 3rd has two crosses, one formed of four fleurs-de-lis like Stephen



FIG. 23.

Norton’s, but on a diamond-shaped stamp like Fig. 9, not a square one ; the other cross is Fig. 23. The capitals are Stephen Norton’s, but uncrowned. The Penshurst 4th has the same capitals crowned — Stephen Norton’s crowned cross and the cross, Fig. 1. The Sandhurst bell has also Norton’s crowned capitals, and the same cross, twice repeated, as that on the 3rd at Penshurst, first above mentioned.

I place the date of these bells as from 1460 to 1485 approximately, but I have not yet reached that date in my examination of the Hustings rolls at Guildhall, where it is possible I may find evidence in favour of the theory as to the founder's name which I now advance. The arms on the shield are those of Kebyll or Keble; they were borne by Sir Henry Kebyll, Lord Mayor in 1510, and a member of the Grocers' Company. In the parish accounts of St. Stephen's, Walbrook, under date 1480, there are payments amounting to £5 6s. 8d. for bell-hanging to John Kebyll, wheelwright. Wheelwright, of course, means a member of the Wheelwrights' Guild or Company; and it is quite on the card that John Kebyll combined bell-making with bell-hanging, although I am free to confess that, as far as I know, such a thing was unusual in those days. I think on the whole, however, the evidence is strong enough to assign these bells provisionally to a bell-founder of the name of Kebyll, of the date I have fixed above.

A bell at Milstead (the 2nd) which has upon it only the impress of three coins of this period, is, of course, quite unplaceable.

The Leeds Castle bell comes in well for notice here. It has the inscription :

+ l a n m c c c c x x x v

In each of the spaces indicated, there is a stop of a man's head. Below the inscription there are the three medallions autotyped on the frontispiece. They are so very quaint that I have thought it best not to have them drawn and

engraved, but to reproduce them in facsimile from my casts, with all the blemishes from casting, just as they appear on the bell. They depict, as will be seen, the Virgin and Child, the Crucifixion of Our Blessed Lord, and St. Michael and the Dragon. This ornamentation stamps it unquestionably as of French workmanship. I trust, as it is unique in this respect, some means will be taken for its preservation; it is terribly worn where the clapper strikes the sound bow, as it well indeed may be after 450 years' daily usage; and as the clock hammer strikes forty-five degrees away from the worn part, it would seem that "quarter-hanging" would not do much good. It is, however, in good hands.

It will be handiest now to dismiss one more "odd" bell of this century, to leave us free to take up another connected story. The bell in question is the former 3rd at Luddesdown, recast not many years since at the Whitechapel foundry, and the ancient inscription reproduced, not very successfully. The legend is:

+ ihc maria katerina

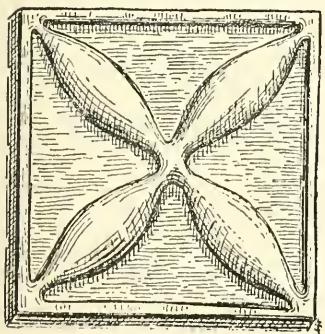


FIG. 24.

The cross is Fig. 24; the lettering is entirely in black letter, without any capitals whatever. Bells with this cross and lettering occur in Leicestershire and Lincolnshire, and there is little doubt they came from the Nottingham foundry, which raises the question how a bell from a foundry so far off came into the belfry of an out-of-the-way church in

Kent. I think the problem is determinable. I have in the "Church Bells of Herts" mentioned that there were several bell-founders in London just about the middle of the sixteenth century, whose names we find recorded, but to whom no bells can be traced; and I account for this by the theory that they dealt largely in second-hand bells, looted by the Government and other robbers from the monasteries and parish churches, and sold to the trade at old metal price. The Public Record Office contains a large quantity of notices of such sales. I believe that some, at all events, of these bells were not broken up, but resold; and I believe, further, that this Luddesdown bell is one of such. And I am of opinion that a small proportion of the pre-Reformation bells now in our belfries owe their present resting-places to the same cause. For instance, there is a bell of Stephen Norton's at Chiselborough, Somerset, which is, to my mind, much too far from its birth-place to be *in situ*, especially when we come to consider the very great difficulties of transport in the Middle Ages. I have other instances in my mind, but these two will serve, I think, as fair samples.

We must now return to the Metropolis, and the next two bells which I have to notice are by a founder whom I have only quite recently succeeded in bringing to light. His name is William Powdrell, and the two examples of his (the only ones I know of) are the 2nd at Stowting, inscribed:

+ WM ❀ P

The cross on this being that (afterwards) used by Johanna Sturdy (Fig. 21). The other bell is the former treble at Ship-

borne, which disappeared in a wholesale sweep some five years ago. It bore the legend :

Sancte Gabriel Ora Pro Nobis

with the impress of a coin and the same fleur-de-lis as the Stowting bell. The capitals used are large flat plain letters, and they were afterwards used by Henry Jordan, whom I have mentioned before, and whose works I shall take in hand next.

William Powdrell—"civis et campanarius"—occurs in the Hustings rolls in 1438 only. His will, dated 21st October, 1439, was proved two days afterwards in the Commissary Court of London (rather speedy work). He desires to be buried at St. Botolph, Aldgate—the bell-founders' church—next to William Stokes, his former master. He makes the usual pious bequests, leaves legacies to his "servants," or workmen—Robert Crowch (see p. 32) being one of them—and to his executors, Galfridus Brydde—"civis et Brasier"—and two others, and the residue to his wife Agnes.

In chronological sequence to him comes the man into whose hands his letters fell, Henry Jordan, citizen and Fishmonger (*i.e.*, a member of the Fishmongers' Company, not a fishmonger by trade). His business career lasted, so far as City records tell, for some quarter of a century—1442 to 1468—and he must have been unquestionably the largest bell-founder of his time, for there is scarcely a county in Mid or South England but contains even now, at the lapse of four centuries, specimens of his handywork. Those in Kent are eleven in number, viz. :

{ Appledore	...	...	... 3rd
{ Barming	...	...	... 2nd
{ Bilsington	...	...	... 2nd
{ Harbledown	...	...	... 3rd
{ Bearsted	...	...	... 2nd
{ Eythorne	...	...	... 2nd and 3rd
{ St. Nicholas' Hospital, Harbledown			2nd
Brookland	...	...	... 3rd
{ Buckland by Dover	...	...	... 2nd
{ Milstead	...	...	... 3rd

The first four have the flat-shaped capitals used before him by William Powdrell. The second three have those which we have traced downwards from John Walgrave to Danyell, from the latter of whom they evidently passed to Henry Jordan. Brookland has the large capitals ascribed to William Wodeward, and used at Brenzett and St. Peter's, Canterbury, while the last two bells have only devices without legends. The stamps used by him are the following, Figs. 25, 26, and 27 :

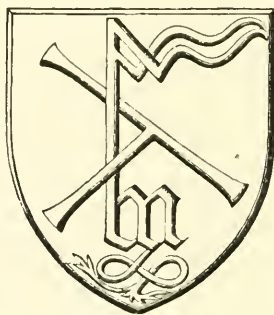


FIG. 25.

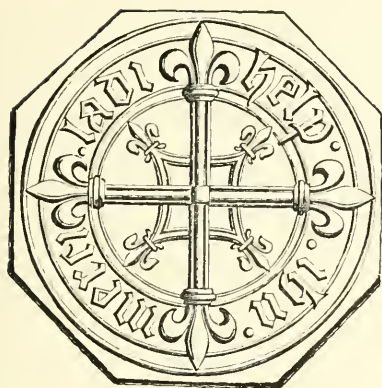


FIG. 26.



FIG. 27.

and all of these appear on nine of the bells in the above list. Milstead 3rd has only Figs. 25 and 27, the former being stamped twice on it. The bell at St. Nicholas' Hospital, Harbledown, has also Figs. 25 and 27, and in addition the cross, Fig. 14.

Of these devices, Figs. 14 and 26 indisputably belonged before him to Danyell ; the other two are exclusively Jordan's own. I may mention that years ago I pointed out to the late Mr. North that I was sure Fig. 27 must be the trade-mark of a bell-founder who was "free" of the Fishmongers' Company. Not long afterwards Mr. Willis Clark found Henry Jordan's name mentioned in the accounts of King's College, Cambridge, and the mystery was solved at once ; for I recognised the name as that of one who, a fishmonger by craft, left 13s. 4d. to be distributed annually to poor founders of London through the medium of my own guild—that of the Founders—which amount is still annually paid.

I have printed in "Surrey Bells" all I have been able to

trace as to his parentage and belongings, and his lengthy but interesting will. He left the larger part of his very considerable property to the great company of which he was a member—in trust for certain pious and charitable uses—and by them the greater part of it is still owned and administered, some premises in the parish of “Seynt Brigide in Fflete Streete in the subberbes of London” alone having passed from their possession. It is interesting to note that in those days Fleet Street extended eastward as far as Ludgate (*i.e.*, half-way up the present Ludgate Hill), for the abuttals of the premises in question show them to have occupied the site of the public-house now standing at the north-western corner of Ludgate Hill.

Towards the close of the fifteenth century, and for some years

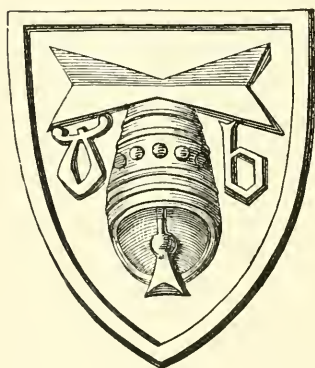


FIG. 28.

in the following one, there flourished in London a bell-founder named Thomas Bullisdon, no doubt a relation of Robert Billesdon, who was Sheriff in 1743, and Mayor in 1483.* Jordan's stamps, or at all events some of them, came into his hands, and we have a specimen of his labours in the 2nd bell at Cudham, with the trade-mark Fig. 28. It has no initial cross, but the capitals are

* Thomas Bullisdon, merchant of the Staple of Calais, who was M.P. for the City in 1492, had property in Portsoken Ward. I hardly think he can have been the bell-founder in question, but I have little doubt all three were related.

those of the 2nd set mentioned in connection with Jordan, and originally belonging to John Walgrave. There is a very pretty ring of five bells by him at the interesting old priory church of St. Bartholomew the Great in Smithfield. They bear his trade-mark, the same capitals as above, and the cross Fig. 14.

We are now approximating to the commencement of the sixteenth century, when we come upon the traces of local Kentish foundries. In the parish accounts of St. Dunstan's, Canterbury, the following entry occurs under date 1500 :

“ Item payde to Rychard Kerner for new
making of the same belle ... iijs. viij*d*.”

The “same” bell being the “Wakerell,” or Sanctus bell. Here we have clearly a local bell-founder, probably of Canterbury, although I have failed to find the entry of his admission to citizenship. The fact of the accounts containing no entry of payment for carriage is, I think, fairly conclusive on this point.

There are four bells in Kent which I consider must be allotted to him ; two of them are in a Canterbury church, and one of those is dated 1505 ; and one of the other two is in a church not far distant. Altogether, I think the evidence is very strong. The four bells are :

St. Mary Bredin, Canterbury	...	2nd and 3rd
Hoath	... ..	2nd
Old Romney	... ..	2nd

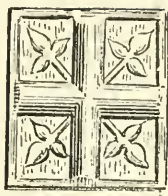


FIG. 29.

They have all four the same initial cross (Fig. 29). The last two bells have, in addition, the shield with a plain cross upon it which we last saw used nearly two centuries before by William le Belyetere (p. 13). The 3rd at St. Mary Bredin is the dated bell; it has the inscription :

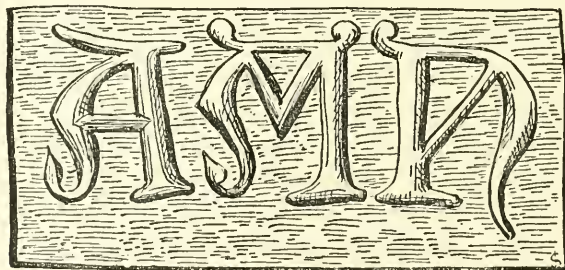
+ TE DEY LAVDAMVS Ihph

the last four letters being undoubtedly intended to represent the Arabic numerals, 1505. It is the earliest use of Arabic or quasi-Arabic numerals that I know of on an English bell.

The Hoath inscription is :

+ S A M C

and I am free to confess I am unable to give its meaning. It is too early, I think, to stand for the initials of the churchwardens. The lettering used is well-shaped Lombardic. I give the most characteristic letters here :



There is another Canterbury bell-founder yet to be alluded to, but as he will demand somewhat lengthened notice, I will

take first the remaining London-cast pre-Reformation bells which are to be found in the county. First comes the 3rd at Down, a dated bell. It has the inscription :

+ Surge mane servire deo anno dni m d xi

The initial cross is Fig. 30, and in each of the spaces above denoted there is the stop Fig. 31. Further, it has upon the

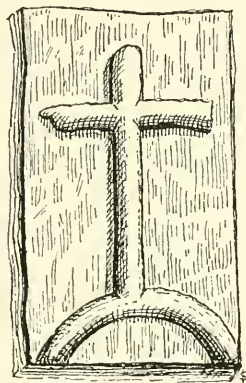


FIG. 30.

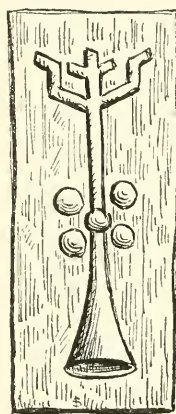


FIG. 31.

waist, in addition to the impress of two coins, the arms of the Prince of Wales. I have this last on a set of three bells at Aythorp Roding, Essex, cast by one John Tonne, a London bell-founder of about the third or fourth decade of the sixteenth century. I do not, however, think the Down bell can be his ; the date is, I consider, too early, and the cross, stop and lettering are not those used by him, so far as I know. But I do think it is by the founder from whom John Tonne learned his trade, and I trust one day to be able to drop upon him at Guildhall. The style of his work rather points to his being a foreigner, probably a Frenchman.

There are two bells, Boughton Aluph 3rd and Graveney treble, which are the work of William Culverden, citizen and brazier of London; they have his trade-mark (Fig. 32), which has frequently been engraved before, although bells by him are not very common. His date is 1513-23. Of the two bells under review, that at Graveney has an inscription which is decidedly a puzzle. It is as follows:

Sancte + ○ *I V* □ (Fig. 33) *P* ○ ▽



FIG. 32.

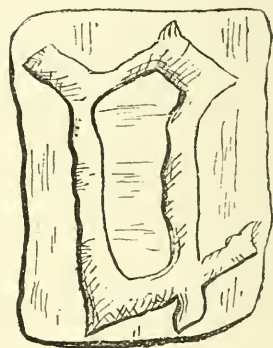


FIG. 33.

The letters S and P are crowned, the V *may* be a reversed N; Fig. 33 occurs elsewhere in his bells—on one at Wimbledon, Surrey, for instance. I thought when I first saw the rubbing that part of the inscription must have been filed or chiselled off, but I have ascertained by personal inspection that this is not the case. I shall be glad if any one can redeem the riddle. The Boughton Aluph bell, dedicated to St. Paul, has nothing peculiar about it.

Culverden's bell-founding career was very brief. His will, dated 29th September, 1522, and proved 2nd June, 1523, is printed by Dr. Raven in the "Church Bells of Cambridge-shire," 2nd ed., p. 44. From it we find that his foundry was in Houndsditch, and that he had sold his premises (leasehold of the Priory of the Holy Trinity) and all his trade implements to one Thomas Lawrence of London, bell-maker. It is to be noted, also, that among the witnesses to the will occurs "John Tynny," who is generally supposed to be identical with the John Tonne whom I have mentioned above.

Thomas Lawrence, Culverden's successor, is represented in Kent by one bell—the singleton at West Cliffe, inscribed :

I H S M A R I A



FIG. 34.

and having the very handsome oblong medallion (Fig. 34), representing St. John the Baptist, upon the waist. This medallion and the lettering, which is peculiar in shape, stamps it clearly as Lawrence's work, for they occur on undoubted examples of his at Margaretting and Leaden Roding in Essex. The lettering, it is to be noted, is Lombardic, and the bell is one which might very easily be mistaken for a fourteenth century example; indeed, a friend who visited West Cliffe belfry with me, and who is a fair judge in such

matters, is, I fancy, not quite convinced now that it is a "late" Lombardic bell. Apart, however, from the direct evidence as to the lettering and medallion, the absence of stops and the use of I H S instead of I H C clearly denote a sixteenth-century bell.

The books of the Founders' Company, to which he belonged, contain a few scraps of information about Thomas Lawrence. His name first appears in 1523 among the yeomanry or freemen; in 1525 he was admitted to the livery, and in 1527 made an "assistant," or member of the court or governing body of the guild. He served the office of under warden in 1530, and upper warden in 1537, and there, so far as the books are concerned, his history ends; for there are no lists of members for 1538 and 1539, and in the 1540 list his name is wanting.

In the Lay Subsidy rolls of 1535-6 for Portsoken Ward, "Thomas Lawranns" is assessed at 10s. on a value of £20. In similar rolls for 1540-1, his name does not appear.

The rapidity of his upward career among the founders argues, I think, that he must have been a wealthy man; corroborative evidence of which lies in the fact that he paid Culverden no less than £120 for his plant, which was a very large sum in those days. He no sooner disappears from London than he reappears in Norwich, of which place I think he must have been a native. He was admitted to the freedom of the City of Norwich on the 23rd March, 1541, and he was buried in St. Stephen's Church there on the 3rd December, 1545. There is no evidence or reason to believe that he practised the bell-founding art after he left London.

I have now come to the last group of pre-Reformation bells, a group made up of eight now in existence, and four more known to have existed formerly. As the founder of them probably survived Queen Elizabeth's accession, it is quite possible that two or three of the eight are really Elizabethan, and so properly belong to the post-Reformation series. Certainly I think from the cautious character of their inscriptions they may, at the earliest, be referred to the transitional period of the reigns of Edward VI. and Mary. But it will be most convenient to treat of them all under one head, and they are, after all, what are technically known as "ancients;" and as their founder was a Canterbury man, William Oldfeild, and the bells are a particularly interesting lot, I propose, after detailing what little I have been able to find concerning the man, to give a full account of each of his works.

We have no information as to where he learnt his trade. His habit of ornamenting his bells shows French proclivities; but this was not unusual among some of the London founders of his date. I do not think he can have been an offshoot from the Oldfields of the Midland Counties, but it is possible; the name is a common one in many parts of the kingdom, and *inter alia* it is to be found in East Kent, for a Thomas Oldfeld was churchwarden at Elham in 1552.

The first absolute mention of him occurs in the Canterbury City Records for 1538, the entry of his admission to citizenship.

"1538. Item the seid Chamberleyn yeldyth accoumptis of the "receytis receyved of the Intraunts of six wardes of the seid Citie as "particulerly hereafter apperyth Newyngate, R of Oldefeld, "Belfounder, xvj^d."

In the same year the Chamberlain also takes credit for the following :

“ Payd to William Oldfeild, Belfownder, for putting owte Thomas “ Bekket from the Commen Seale, and gravyng agayn of the same.”

An operation, by the way, which is perfectly evident on the City seal to this day. And in the year 1542-3 is an entry of a payment to him for “graving of the scochon for beggars.”

As to the length of his career I am uncertain ; he was, as we find from the parish accounts of Birchington, certainly casting in 1551, and as the average duration of a founder's trade-life seems to have been about a quarter of a century, he may well have lived into Queen Elizabeth's reign. The following entries from the parish registers of St. George, Canterbury, probably refer to some members of his family :

“ 1558, 10th July. Married Richard Trin and Margaret Oldfield, “ maiden.”

“ 1561, 19th Aprill. Married William Oldfield and Helen Apreys.”

I have quite failed to find his will, either at Canterbury or in London.

I regret very much that I have only been able to find such scanty information about him, because he lived at a time of which the existing records are fairly abundant. It is a curious thing how many of his surname, if not of his family, took to bell-founding. For more than a century after his date we have them in London, York, and Nottingham, not to mention several itinerant ones whose local habitation has

not been traced. The first of the Nottingham Oldfields was his contemporary, and when the history of the Nottingham bell-foundries comes to be written, it is possible some connection may be traced between the two. There is, however, no similarity in their work as regards lettering and ornamentation.

Now for his bells. They are :

{ Boughton Aluph	...	...	5th
{ Kennington	...	...	5th
{ Minster in Thanet	...	...	4th
{ Betteshanger	...	...	1st
{ Littlebourne	...	...	2nd
Bapchild	...	...	Single
Murston	...	...	1st
Westwell	...	...	4th

Similarity of lettering denoted by brackets. That on the first three bells is given on Plate IV. That on the next two is plain, small, well-formed Lombardic. He is given to the use of devices—indeed, the inscription, if it can be so called, on the Bapchild bell is, with the exception of the sacred monogram, entirely made up of devices. The first four bells are certainly pre-Reformation ; the others, I fancy, are “ transitional,” as before mentioned.

The Boughton Aluph bell is a “ Gabriel ” bell, *i.e.*, one used to ring the morning and evening “ Ave ” peals upon. It is inscribed with the somewhat halting verse—

DYLEIS SISTO MENIS VOCOR
CAMPAÑA GABRIELIS

The initial letter of the angel's name is very quaint, and will be found at the commencement of the preface to this work. There are, of course, no stops between the words, but at the end of the legend there is the half-figure of an angel *affronté*, and on each side thereof Fig. 35, which is more easily drawn than described.

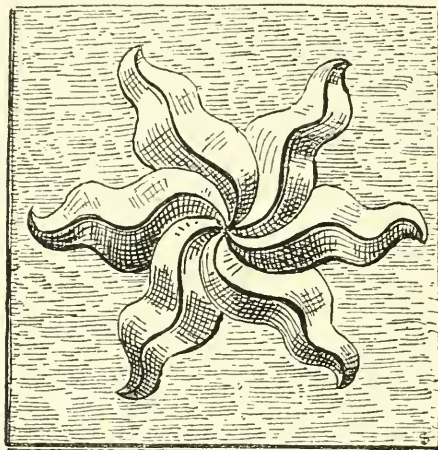


FIG. 35.

The Kennington bell is similar in its lettering ; the legend upon it is :

IES EST AMOR MEVS

Contrary to rule, it has a coin between each word for a stop. At the end of the inscription our nondescript friend Fig. 35 again appears, twice repeated, and between the two a shield with the Royal Arms, France and England quarterly.

Mr. Bryan Faussett states that two other bells (the then 1st and 2nd) at Kennington bore inscriptions showing they

were cast in Catholic times. I think it is very probable that they, too, were by William Oldfeild.

The example at Minster in Thanet is possibly an old "Ave" bell. The inscription is unique—

HOLY MARE PRAY FOR VS

with Fig. 35 as a stop between the words. At the end there is the half-figure of an ecclesiastic in surplice with the hands

clasped in prayer; and, in addition, the founder's trade-mark (Fig. 36). The



FIG. 36.

Betteshanger treble, which I have next to notice, is a singularly interesting bell, the sole survivor of a ring of three given to the church at the same time by three brothers, as we learn from Hasted. Full description of them will be found at a later page, under the

detailed account of the parishes, and need not be repeated here. It remains to be noticed that the initial letters of each word are slightly larger than the rest, which is not uncommon with "later" Lombardic bells.

The Littlebourne bell has the same lettering as the Betteshanger one, and from the extreme caution of its inscription—

+ SOLI DEO HONOR ET GLORIA

is probably of transitional date. The initial cross is almost a facsimile of Fig. 14, and therefore, I think, unnecessary to be engraved here. At the end of the legend is a small shield

with a lion passant, and the impress of a coin ; and below, on the waist, is William Oldfeild's trade-stamp (Fig. 36).

The Bapchild bell, the sole survivor of a ring of three, sold in the last century to save the farmers' pockets, is most interesting. It has upon it the following devices : 1. The figure of Our Blessed Lord (Fig. 37), with the sacred monogram **ihc** on either side. 2. A shield with the arms of the City of Canterbury, but reversed, *i.e.*, the heads pointing the



FIG. 37.



FIG. 38.

wrong way. 3. The royal arms, as at Kennington. 4. The Prince of Wales's feathers, crowned. 5. Oldfield's trade-stamp. 6. A curious oval medallion (Fig. 38) of the Annunciation, with the lily considerably larger than either the Blessed Virgin or the Angel. 7. The nondescript Fig. 35, with a coin on each side of it.

The Murston bell is uninteresting. It has the **ihc**, the cross as at Littlebourne, a lion passant, and the cross again repeated. The Westwell 4th is somewhat similar. It has the sacred monogram twice repeated, with a coin between, and on the waist a grotesque figure, the subject or meaning of which is far from obvious. It has, apparently, come out imperfect from the casting, and so, although I got a good squeeze and a good cast therefrom, I cannot quite make out the object. It would seem to be an animal with a bird's body and legs, wings, a long curled tail, a goat's head, and human arms. Altogether a very "fearful wildfowl."

One more bell of his remains to be mentioned, and for this we are indebted to Mr. Bryan Faussett's notes of 1758. It was at the Church of St. Mildred, Canterbury, where, in the latter's time, there were five bells, of which only one, the treble or second, now remains. The bell now under review was then the tenor, and a full account of what the worthy antiquary found thereon will be found in the detailed description under the head of the parish. The stamp of "Our Saviour figured to the waist" which he mentions, was doubtless that on the Bapchild bell (Fig. 37). This and the date 1536 (although the last seems somewhat early) prove it, I consider, to have been William Oldfeild's work.

This finishes the pre-Reformation examples in Kent, and we now have to deal with the Elizabethan bells, ranging in date from 1560 (1575 is the earliest actual date found) to 1604. They number thirty-eight, to which we may add eight recast or replaced recently, and ten more noted by Mr. Bryan Faussett, making a total of fifty-six to be noticed. Of these,

thirty-six are of London make, thirteen are of local manufacture, four are indeterminable, and the remainder are by itinerant founders. I will take the "odds and ends" first, then the London bells, and the local ones last, as they form the best link with those we shall have to consider when we come to the seventeenth century.

INDETERMINABLE BELLS.—The 2nd at Preston by Faversham has the motto LOVE GOD and the date 1575. The lettering is quaintly ornamented, a kind of compromise between Lombardic and Roman. The 2nd at Stodmarsh is undated, but is, I think, of this epoch; the inscription is, A BOVE ALL THINGS LOVE GOD; the lettering quite plain and of transitional character. The 2nd at Hartlip has a long dedicatory inscription, in ordinary Roman capital letters, with a diamond-shaped stop between the words, and the date 1578. The 4th at Cowden has simply the date 1584; there are similar examples in Sussex, and they are all probably by some Sussex itinerant; but Mr. Tyssen has not succeeded in finding his name, and where he has failed I can hardly hope to solve the problem.

Another Sussex founder did some work in Kent at this time as well as in his own county, Hants and Surrey, and his bells with the initials A W are well known. He cast bells for both Cranbrook and Hawkhurst, as their churchwardens' accounts testify, but the bells themselves have long since been consigned to the melting-pot. One of his bells survived until 1859, however—the tenor at St. Paul's Cray. It was dated 1597, and inscribed:

PRAISE THE LORD 1597. A W

The parish accounts just mentioned show his name to have been Antony Wakefeild; but there is, as yet, no clue to his place of abode. Mr. Tyssen's "Church Bells of Sussex" contains mention of other bell-founders of this surname in Sussex, and he was doubtless a member of the family and certainly very much itinerant.

John Cole, another itinerant of the latter part of the sixteenth century, has left two specimens of his handywork, the 3rd at Orlestone and the single bell at Shadoxhurst, dated respectively 1591 and 1592. Sussex and Hampshire are also indebted to him, and at Alresford, in the latter county, he is supposed to have lived when at home. He has a weakness for reversing his inscription, and for spelling "by" BI.—*Vide* Shadoxhurst, *in loco*.

We come now to the London-made bells, and among these I will deal first with the treble at Loose, bearing simply the initials **I**_H, and the impress of four coins round the same. There is a bell at Navestock, in Essex, similarly inscribed; sufficient evidence, I consider, to reckon them both as by a London maker. Now Loose is one of the few parishes that have preserved their old churchwardens' accounts, and they are extant from very nearly the commencement of the seventeenth century. But they contain no mention whatever of the casting of this bell, which is reasonable proof that it must be earlier. And as there was a London bell-founder in the middle of the sixteenth century whose name was John Harding ("Surrey Bells," p. 130), I think we may fairly conclude the bell to be his.

The next bell is, so far as is yet known, the sole remain-

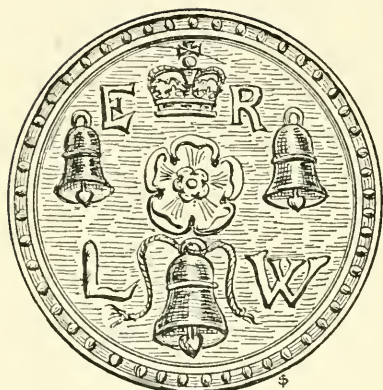


FIG. 39.

ing example of a London bell-founder whose name we have known for a long time, one Lawrence Wright, whose well-designed foundry-stamp is here given (Fig. 39) taken from the bell now under review, which is the 3rd at Thurnham. It has the donor's name—in not ill-formed black letter with rather wonderful old English

capitals—and the date 1586.

As this is probably the only occasion when Wright's name will come under notice, it may be as well to give here what little is known about him. He was employed in the year 1587 by the authorities of St. Michael's Church, Cornhill, London, to recast their great bell, called "Rus," after its donor, William Russ, Alderman and Goldsmith, who gave it about 1430. The following entry occurs in the vestry minute book, under date 17th December, 1587 :*

" — agreed y^t the bellfownder shall have xiiij^{li} payd hym now
 " and upon y^e lykyng off it here aft y^e p^{is}he will consider off hym
 " better yff y^e bell holld and be bett^r lyked off then it is now so
 " moche as his dewe is to be accounted justly and y^e ov^rplus is geven
 " hym off benevolenc."

And we have in the accounts for the year :

* These entries are from Mr. A. J. Waterlow's "Churchwardens' Accounts of St. Michael, Cornhill."

- “ Paide to Lawrence Wrighte belfounder for xxx C &
 xiiij^{li} for newe casting of Rus at vjs y^e C ... lx^{li} vjs ix^d *
 “ Paide more to hym for C & qrt & xiiij^{li} of newe mettle
 at vjd ye li put into Rus iij^{li} xvijs
 “ Paide more to hym graunted by a Vestrye ... xvjs iij^d

Apparently the parish did not like it hereafter, for on the 10th November, 1588, it was agreed in vestry “that o^r bell Rus shal be newe cast uppon further advise of the pishioners.” Which was duly carried out by Robert Mot, of White-chapel.

Wright's work was evidently cheap and nasty. The price of 6s. 8d. per cwt. for recasting is very low for the period, and the casting of a bell weighing a ton and a half would probably require better appliances than he—evidently a small man—had at command; but he clearly grasped at a big order. I am afraid he was hardly so straightforward a British tradesman as he should have been. Mr. Tyssen found the following curious entries relating to him in the Records of the Court of Requests, dated the 34th Eliz.—the plaint against him and his reply :

To the Queens moste excelent majestie.

In humblewise complayning sheweth unto your excelent majestie your subjectes Rowland Rayner Thomas Rayner and William Mountsage of Hillingdon in the countie of Midd^x yomen that where about twoo yeres since or more one Lawrence Wrighte

* There is some error here, probably in transcribing. The price 6s. is incorrect, and the amount paid very much too large. I suspect the price should be 6s. 8d.; the sum clearly ought to be £10 6s. 9d. The three entries together would then just make up the £14 voted in vestry.

of London Belfounder did faithfullie promise and undertake to and with yo^r said subjects that he woold within shorte time next ensuinge the said promise newe cast and substancially make a great bell for your said subjectes and the rest of the parishioners there which bell so to be made and hanged up in the bell frame att Hillingdon aforesaid in his convenient place emongest fower other bells then hanging there shoold be tuneable and agreable with the rest of the said bells and bound himself to your said subjects that he woold justlie and trulie performe the same which in troth he never did performe in anie good order but altogether contrarie to his said bargaine and agreement made to yo^r said subjectes for making of which said bell in manner and forme before alleaged your said subjectes became bounde by their Deede obligatorie to the said Lawrence wth condicon that they would satisfie and paie to the saide Lawrence the full some of so much monie as was agreed upon betwixt them for the same in manner and forme ensuinge That is to saie wthin one moneth next after that the said Lawrence shoold performe his said bargaine and promisse to them made in forme aforesaid one half of the said some And within six monethes then next after the other halfe which some doth plainlie appeare in the condicion endorsed upon the said Deede obligatorie which remayneth in the custodie of the said Lawrence And forasmuch as the said Lawrence hath not in any pointe effectuellie nor justlie performed his said bargaine and promise yo^r said subjects doth forbear to paie him the said somes of monie as in reason and equitie is lawfull for them to do. Nevertheless so it is and it may please yo^r Majestic that the said Lawrence of a gredie and unconscionable minde hath or meaneth to sue yo^r said subjectes upon the said Deede obligatorie intending there gretlie to vex trouble and charge your said subjectes having no juste cause or consideracon so to doo or otherwise maie forbare to putt the said bonde in suite till after the death of yo^r said subjectes and

then maie vex troble and charge their executors or administrators or the executors or administrators of anie of them who for want of understandinge of the said bargaine shalbe unable to defend him in the said suite and so maie be unjustly charged by reason thereof contrarie to all right equitie and conscience. In consideracon whereof for the avoyding of the perille aforesaid yo^r said subjects most humbly beseecheth that it maie please your Majestie of your accustomed clemencie to award your most gracious writt of Privie Seale to be directed to the said Lawrence Wrighte him therbie comaundinge att a certaine daie or time therin to be limited personally to apeare before your Majesties counsell of yo^r highe Court of Requestes then and there to stand to and obey all such order and direction therein consarning the bringing in and canseling of the said bonde as to yo^r Highnes said Counsell shall seeme meete and expedient and your said subjectes accordinge to their bounden dutie shall daylie praie to Almighty God for the long continuance of yo^r Highnes most noble and prosperous raigne.

To which the bell-founder replied :

The aunswer of Lawrence Wrighte defend to the bill of Complainge of Rowland Raiyner and Thomas Raiyner and William Mountsage complaynnte.

The said defend. by protestacon not confessinge any matter or thinge in the said bill of Compl^t contayned and materyall to be aunswered unto by this defend. to be true in suche manner and forme as in and by the said bill of Compl^t there are surmised yet if they were true for asmuche as by the Compl^{ts} owne shewinge y^t dothe manifestly appear that the said Complaynnts maye have their sufficient remedy at tlie Common lawe for the matter wherin theye seeke to be releevd in this most honorable Courte if their owne allegacons in that behalfe be true therefore and

for other the defects and ymperfeccions of the said bill this defendt dothe demurre and abide in lawe upon the same for the insufficiencye therof yet nevertheles all the benefitt and advantage of exception to the insufficiency of the said bill of Compl^t to this defendt at all times hereafter saved then this defendt for the better informeinge of this moste honourable Courte of the truthe of the matters and poyntes suggested against this defendt in and by the said bill of Compl^t yf this defendante shall by the order and judgement of this moste honorable Courte be forced and compelled to make any further or other aunswer to the said byll saith that about fower years paste ther passed speeche and comunycacon betwixte this defendt and the said Complaynants then parishioners of the said towne of Hyllingdon aboute the newe castinge and makeinge of a bell to be hanged upp in the bell frame at Hyllingdon aforesaid and in the end this defendt did undertake the doeinge thereof and the said Compl^{ts} did lyke-wise undertake and assuer for to paye unto this defendt the so^me of Fortie and seaven pounds to be paied at certaine daies and times betwixte them agreed upon and for the better and more sure paiement of the said so^me of fower score and fowerteene poundes of lawefull monye of England neverles wth condicon therunto annexed or therupon indorsed that if the said compl^{ts} their executors or assignes or anye of them did satisfie and paie unto this defendt or his assignes the said so^me of seaven and Fortie poundes at the daies and times in the said condition specified then the said obligacon to be voyd for the better expressinge and declaringe of the ctaintie wherof this defendt dothe referr himselfe to the condition of the said bonde And this defendt became allso bounde to the said Compl^{ts} by obligacon in the some of threscore poundes of lyke lawefull monye of England to this or the like effecte that wheras this defendt had then delived to the said Compl^{ts} one great bell wayeinge twentye hundred waighte or therabouts.

And if in case it happened that the said bell after the newe placeinge and hangeinge upp therof in the righte and due place w^{thin} the steeple of the parishe Church of Hyllingdon aforesaid shall not be and continue of a true tune good sounde and agreable to and with the residue of the bells that then did hange in the said steeple or doe not breake or cracke throughe defaulte of Workmanship by or duringe the space of one yeare and a daye then next followeing if then this defend^t his executors or assignes at his or their owne proper costes and chardges doe not onelye take downe and hange upp the said bell from time to time but allso within convenient time and space next after notice geven to him or them w^{thin} the said space of one yeare and a daye ymediatly after the nowe next placeinge and hangeinge up of the said bell to and with the residue of the said bells that then did hange in the said steeple from time to time until the said bell shall be and contynue of true sound and agreable with the other bells that nowe hange in the said steeple by the said space of one yeare and a daye next after the hangeinge up of the said bell as aforesaid for the better expressing the certainty whereof this def^t referreth himself to the condicon and obligacon aforesaid And this defend^t further saiethe that he did newe caste and newe make the said bell and hanged the same in the said bell frame accordinge to the true intent and meaneinge of the contracte and agreement aforesaid and allso accordinge to the extent and true meaneinge of the condicon of the said obligacon. And yet the said Compl^{ts} have not sathysfied and paied the said some of seaven and fortie poundes or anye parte or parcell thereof for the non payment whereof this defend^t hath attempted suite upon the said obligacon made unto this defend^t as aforesaid againste the said Compl^{ts} at the Comon Lawe and the said Compl^{ts} have lykewise comensed suite against this defend^t upon the said obligacon of threscore poundes made to (? by) this defend^t unto the said Compl^{ts} as aforesaid wher the

said matter hathe bynne procecut by the said Compl^{ts} againste this defend^t untill an yssue was thereupon joyned and nowe restithe to be tried by a jurye of the said Countie of Midd^x. And without that that ther is anye other matter or thinge materyall or effectuall in the said bill of Complaint menconed or containyd and by this def^t to be aunswered unto and not herein by this defend^t sufficiently confessed and avoyded trauersed or denied ys true all w^{ch} matters this defend^t is reddey to averr and prove as this honorable Courte shall awarde and prayethe to be dismissed forthe of this said honorable Courte wth his reasonable costes and expenses in this behaulfe alreddy wrongefully borne and susteined.

xx^{me} die Aprilis anno Regni R^{ne} Elizabeth &c xxxiiij.

The issue does not appear, but the two incidents together tend to show that Mr. Lawrence Wright's "commercial morality" was not of the most scrupulous kind.

I pass now to another London bell-founder, Robert Mot, the first owner, so far as is known, of the Whitechapel foundry, whose trade-stamp is here given (Fig. 40). I have already ("Church Bells of Herts") given my reasons for believing that he was a native of East Kent, and the son of one John Mott, of Canterbury, who was very busy in 1553 buying up hand bells, organ pipes, latten candlesticks, and other loot from churches.* The name was and is still an East Kent one; I have found it myself recently, and I find it in records ("Inquisitions Post Mortem" and other) as early as 1392.†

* "Arch. Cant.," xiv., p. 316, etc.

† Inquisitions 15 Ric. II., No. 61. "Joh'es Mot pro Priore and conventu ecclie Sancti Gregorii, extra Cantuar."

However that may be, he started his foundry somewhere about the year 1570, on the north side of High Street, Whitechapel, where Tewkesbury Court now is.* This would

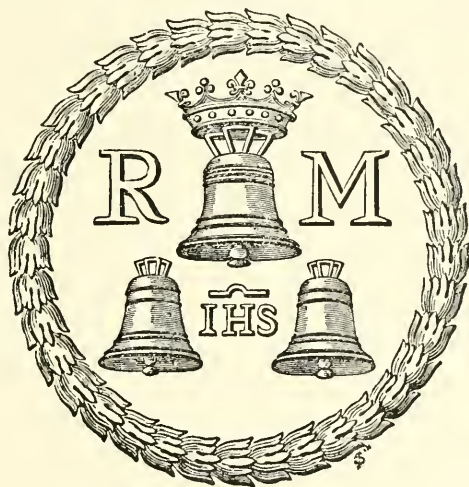


FIG. 40.

seem to have been the first extension of the trade from the City to the county, quite accounted for by the centrifugal force which was then strongly operating in London. He carried on the foundry with considerable success until 1606, when he sold his business to Joseph Carter, of Reading, and he died at the end of March, 1608. I cannot trace where he served his apprenticeship and learned his trade, unless it was with Thomas Kempe, bell-founder, who was buried at St. Botolph's, Aldgate, in August, 1574, the only fact that is known concerning him. The period from 1547 to 1570 must have been a "real bad time" for bell-founders.

* "Church Bells of Sussex," p. 35.

There are twenty-one bells by Mot still hanging in Kentish steeples, and four more which have been recast or replaced recently. Worthy Bryan Faussett has also note of nine more ; four at Chilham, the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 6th, the last being evidently a recast of an “ Ave ” bell, from its having the word “ Gabrielis ” on it. The other five were all at Wye, the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 8th numbers in the ring.

The four recent disappearances are the 2nd at Ashurst, 6th at Hayes, 4th at Lynstead, and 3rd at Staplehurst ; the last, however, being sound and whole, has been preserved by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank—the present owners of the foundry—as a specimen of the handywork of their predecessor.

The twenty-one are distributed all over the county ; it is not worth while to give a list of them here, I think. They are mostly inscribed in ill-shaped black letter smalls, with only a capital R (in Roman type) for Robert, the surname being almost invariably spelt with a small m. The one exception is at Biddenden, which has a capital M. This is also a recast, for it has “ Petris ” on it.

The Fawkham bell is inscribed in queer quasi-Lombardic lettering, and has the date (his latest in Kent) 1604. Three bells by him at Rainham are very good specimens of his styles of lettering ; the 2nd, dated 1601, has in the same lettering as Fawkham :

ROBERTVS ❀ MOE ❀ ME ❀ FECIT

The 6th, dated 1582, has his usual style of lettering. The inscription is :

Robert mot made me

with a quatrefoil stop.

The 3rd, dated same as the 2nd, has a similar inscription, but the lettering is very different. It is large genuine Lombardic with very handsome ornamentation, specimens of which are engraved on Plate XIV. of "Surrey Bells." The 3rd bell at Smarden has the same lettering.

There is a puzzle about this last-named lettering which I cannot quite unravel. The stamps were clearly originally the property of the Braziers, a bell-founding family in Norwich of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. How Mot got possession of them is, of course, unknown, nor do we quite know the date; but it must have been in or before 1575, for a bell at Barnes, Surrey, of that date has one of the letters, and they are occasionally though rarely used by him all through his business career, and they passed from him to his successor, Joseph Carter, as we shall see presently. The puzzle is this: at the *very same time* and for many consecutive years, the identical stamps were being used by the Watts family at the Leicester Foundry. *Ex uno disce omnes*. I will give the first example I come across (there are very many). The 6th, 7th, and 8th at Clifton Beds have this lettering, with the date 1590 and the name of William Watts as their founder. I take it, the only conclusion possible is that there were duplicate sets of these stamps, the only instance I know of such a thing.

It remains to be stated that nearly all Mot's bells bear his foundry-stamp figured above. His earliest bell in Kent is Bredgar 3rd, 1579; his latest, the single bell at Fawkham, dated 1604.

I pass now to a pair of local bell-founders, who complete

the account of Elizabethan bells, and, as it were, form a connecting link with the next century, for they both clearly had successors, in one case the most important founder of the seventeenth century.

The first of them, Giles Reve, is one whom all my endeavours have failed to locate. He left no testamentary disposition that I can trace, and no parish accounts that I have had the opportunity of examining contain any mention of him. His dates, so far as extant examples show, are not wide—1584 to 1592 is the extreme range of them. Nor are his bells widely scattered, as will be seen from the following list of them. None are known to exist outside the county :

Boughton Monchelsea	...	...	3rd
Frindsbury	...	...	4th
Hoo St. Werburgh	...	...	3rd
Leybourne	...	...	2nd
Offham	...	...	1st
Snodland	...	...	2nd
Stoke at Hoo	...	...	3rd
Cuxton	...	...	2nd
Shipborne	...	...	2nd

Only seven of the nine, however, are now in existence, the last two having been recast. His lettering is large sprawling Roman capitals, and he is much given to the use of coins, medals, grotesque figures of men and animals, etc. The Boughton Monchelsea example has a very handsome border of fleurs-de-lis above the inscription, and a crowned Tudor rose, a well-known Elizabethan emblem, used as a stop

between the words. On the Frindsbury bell he spells his name REWE. The bells at Hoo St. Werburgh and Offham have an ornamental border differing from that at Boughton Monchelsea. The Cuxton bell was remarkable for having the surname omitted—the inscription was :

BY WE GYLLES BELLFOANDER 1589.

As I have before stated, I cannot trace his place of abode. The name is not one peculiar to any especial part of Kent, and the only evidence in the matter is the neighbourhood in which his bells are found. This seems to indicate the northern part of Mid-Kent, and an exhaustive search of the parish registers might possibly solve the problem ; for this I have no time at my disposal, but I should feel grateful for any information on the subject. He may have preceded the founder whom I shall mention next, and whose (supposed) abode was Ulcombe and Broomfield, but I am doubtful. On the one hand they both have a weakness for ornamentation ; on the other, their styles of lettering differ very much.

Thomas Hatch, the bell-founder just alluded to, is very sparingly represented in the county ; there are only two of his bells left, and one of them is cracked and useless. It is the treble at St. Margaret's, Canterbury ; the whole bell is the treble at Langley. They both bear the same date, 1599. I know of two others, the former 3rd at Bearstead and 3rd at Lyminge ; this latter on the authority of Mr. Bryan Faussett, who affirms its date to have been 1585. There was formerly one also by him at St. John's, Margate, according to Lewis, who wrote in 1725.

Thomas Hatch was the first of a series of three bell-founders residing at Ulcombe or Broomfield (it seems to be a matter of doubt which), who did a very large business in the county, their united dates spreading over nearly eighty years. He therefore deserves some notice, more, in fact, than I am able to give. His lineal descendant, Mr. James T. Hatch of Lenham, tells me that he has been quite unable to trace the family tree farther back. I too have taken a good deal of trouble in the matter, but with equally ill-success. Henry Hatch of Faversham, who died in 1533, and was a considerable benefactor to that town, was doubtless a member of the family, which I find widely distributed, there being branches at Mersham, Sellinge, Smarden, Wormshill, Canterbury, and at Yalding, Nettlestead, Birling, and West Malling, and the Christian name Thomas is of frequent occurrence ; but I cannot positively connect Thomas the bell-founder with any of them. I am inclined, however, to look upon him as more likely an offshoot from one of the East Kent branches than from those settled upon the upper course of the Medway. Further, I am by no means certain that his foundry was at Ulcombe, although his successors were certainly established there. I confess to a lurking suspicion that he lived in the good city of Canterbury. The date of his death is uncertain ; the "family Bible" gives it as 1599 which is certainly wrong, for I find him mentioned in a marriage license dated in the latter part of 1600. In this he is stated as of Broomfield ; but this may only imply that he had retired there to end his days. It will be noticed that no bells of his are dated after 1599.

Thomas Hatch's lettering is Roman type, of a somewhat ornamental character, and he uses the foundry-stamp here engraved (Fig. 41). The Langley bell has also upon it the bust of a man, with rather a shock head of hair. The bell at St. Margaret's, Canterbury, has a series of stamps upon it; but, like most bells in town steeples, they are so badly corroded from the sulphurous atmosphere as to be hardly made out. The Elizabethan crowned rose is most recognisable, but it is not from the same stamp as the one used by Gyles Reve.

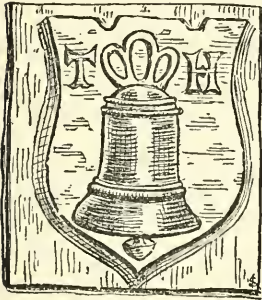


FIG. 41.

With Thomas Hatch my enumeration of Elizabethan bells ends, and we come to the consideration of those cast in the seventeenth century, no less than 475 in number, the handy-work of some twenty-seven or twenty-eight different founders—Metropolitan, local, and itinerant. Of these, local men contribute a tale of nearly 300.

It will be most convenient here to continue the story of the Ulcombe foundry, under its next two proprietors, Joseph and William successively. It will also be most fitting, as there are no less than 155 by the former and twenty-five by the latter still existing.

As I have already stated, we have no positive evidence as to the date of Thomas Hatch's death; but as Joseph Hatch's earliest date is 1602, we may fairly suppose it to have been in 1601. It is to be noted that on one of Joseph's earliest bells—the 3rd at Waltham—he uses Thomas Hatch's foundry

stamp, Fig. 41. On all (or very nearly all) his other bells he uses a circular stamp with three bells on it.

During the thirty-seven or thirty-eight years that he was founding, in spite of local and Metropolitan competition, he did a business which may fairly be described as enormous. This is clearly proved by the fact noted above, that in spite of the very large amount of recasting that has been done in Kent during the last and present centuries, there are still 155 of his bells in Kentish steeples.

Of these there are entire rings at Boughton Malherbe, Fordwich, High Halden, Waltham, and Wouldham. No doubt originally there were many more. He was a shrewd man of business; the entries in the Churchwardens' accounts of Cranbrook, to those who can read "between the lines" are very clear testimony of this.

He died, childless and wealthy, in September, 1639, being buried at Broomfield on the 17th of that month. I give here a copy of his will and the nuncupative codicil thereto, as follows :

In the name of God. Amen. The xxixth of June 1639. This is the last Will and Testament of me Joseph Hatch of the Parish of Ulcomb in the County of Kent Bellfounder made in my sicknes and weake in body but sound and perfect in my remembrance I heartily thanke the Lord God for it First and above all things I comend my soule into the Hands of Allmighty God hoping for pardon of all my sinns by the death and passion of Jesus Christ and by noe other meanes and my body to the earth of which it was made to bee buried in the Parish Churchyard of Bromefeild to bee buried beside my deare Mother and Brothers And as concerneing that porcon of worldly goods which

God of his mercie hath sent I give it as followeth Itm. I give and bequeath unto the poore people of the Parish of Bromfeild the sume of Foure Pounds of lawfull money of England to bee given to them by mine Executor at the day of my buryall and my Tennants to have the biggest portion Itm. I give and bequeath unto my very loveing Wife Jane Hatch my now Dwell house with a little house ioyneing to it And further I give her a dwelling house, a wheate mill and a mault mill with the appurtences belonging to the said houses and all my lands lying and being in Ulcomb dureing her natureall life and after her decease I give and bequeath it all unto my Brother Thomas Hatch to him and his heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath unto my Brother Thomas Hatch my house at Maidstone beside the little bridge with the lands belonging to it being now in the occupation of John Shunks I give to him and his heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath unto the said Thomas my Brother more my house and lands with the appurtences belonging to it lying and being in Hedcorne and being in the occupation of John Wollett to him and his heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath to the said Thomas my Brother more one house and orchard lying and being in Bromfeild and being in the occupation of Daniell Morefoote to him and his heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath unto the said Thomas my Brother more one house and the lands belonging to it lying and being in Bromfeild and being in the occupation of John Mills to him and his heires for ever Itm I give unto the poore of the P'ish of Bromfeild for ever the sume of Fortie shillings the yeare to bee paid to them at two severall payments that is to say xx^s at the Nativitie of our Saviour Jesus Christ and xx^s at the Feast of Easter to bee paid by my Brother Thomas Hatch and his heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath unto my Brother Edward Hatch all my houses and lands lyinge and being in Harisham with their appurtences belonging to them to him and his heires

for ever Itm I give and bequeath unto him the said Edward my Brother one house and orchard and all the lands and appurtences belonging to it lying and being in Hedcorne and being in the occupation of Goodman Giles to him and his heires for ever Itm I give unto him the said Edward my Brother one house with a corn and outhouse with the lands belonging to it with an acre of meadow land neere Thomas Robins all lying and being in Bromefeild and being in the occupation of Thomas Willmott to him and his heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath unto him the said Edward my Brother one house with three peeces or pcells of land belonging to it and being in Bromefeild and in the occupation of one Colens to him and his heires for ever Provided alwayes that the three other dwellings are to have free way for the draweing and carreing away water from the well standing in one of the peeces or pcells of land afforesaid Itm I give and bequeath unto my Sister Elizabeth the Widow of John Goddard all the rents and yearly pfitts of all my houses and lands which are within the Citty of Canterbury shee paying the quit rents goeing out of it dureing her natureall life and afterwards I give and bequeath all the said houses and lands to Thomas Hatch my Brother and his heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath to my Cosen William Clagett and his Wife 8 aē of land more or less lying or being in the Parish of Stapleherst to them dureing their natureall lives and after to their heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath to Joseph Proud the sonne of Thomas Proud my Godsonne the sume of Twentie Pounds to bee paid to him within one whole yeare after my decease by mine Executor Itm I give and bequeath to Joseph Proud the sonne of Richard Proud my Godsonne the sum of Twentie Pounds to bee paid to him within one whole yeare after my decease by mine Executor Itm I give and bequeath unto John Paul my Cosen the sum of Twentie Pounds within Six monthes after my decease if hee bee then living if not to his heires to be paid by mine Executor Itm I

give and bequeath unto Thomas Gilbird and his Wife the house wherein hee now liveth dureing their natureall lives and after to Joseph Gilbird his Sonne my Godson and his heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath to Joseph Hatch my Godson the sonne of William Hatch the houses and backsides with fruit trees that Edward Christian, Widow Baker and Widow Turle dwell in being in Bromefeild to him and his heires for ever only the said William Hatch is to have the pftt of the said houses till the said Joseph Hatch comes to the age of 24 yeares Itm I give and bequeath to Thomas Taylor the sonne of Thomas Taylor of Bromefeild late deceased one house and backside being in the occupation of Abraham Coppunt in Bromefeild to him and his heires for ever Itm I give and bequeath to William Hatch my Servant the sum of Twentie Pounds to bee paid to him within one whole yeare after my decease to bee paid by mine Executor Itm I give and bequeath unto John Copper my Cosen the sume of Tenn pounds to bee paid by mine Executor All the rest of my goods and chattells moveables and household I give and bequeath unto my loveing Wife Jane whome I make and ordaine my sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament and I make and ordaine my Brother Richard Proud my overseer of this my last Will and Testament and for his paines I give and bequeath to him the sume of Tenn pounds to be paid to him by mine Executor within one whole yeare after my decease In witness whereof I have hereunto set to my hand and seal Dated the day and yeare above written—Joseph Hatch **X** his Marke—Read sealed and delivered in the pñce of us—The Marke of **X** Thomas Willmott—The Marke of **X** Daniell Morefote.

A Codicill nuncupative to bee added and annexed to the last Will and Testament in writeing of Joseph Hatch late of Ulcomb in the Countie of Kent Belfounder deceased by him uttered and declared on or about the Thirteenth day of September Anno Dni 1639 being the very next day before his death hee being

then in perfect minde and memory in these or the like words followeing viz. He willed and gave to the other three Sonnes of his Brother in law Thomas Proud not meconed in his Will in writeing Twentie Pounds a peece To John Sonne of John Woollett of Hedcorn Twentie Pounds To Edward Hatch his Brother Fiftie Pounds besids the Legacies given to him in his said Will in writeing To Elizabeth Spice his Wives Sister's Daughter Fiftie Pounds And to his Brother in law Thomas Proud hee gave a debt of Fiftie Pounds due to him by William Glover of Canterbury and Tenn Pounds in money to bee paid by his Executrix in sueing for the same debt and for recovery thereof At what time there were þsent together in hearth of all the þmisses Jane Hatch the deceased Testator his Wife and Executrix, Thomas Hatch his Brother and William Hatch the writer of his Will.—Jan Hatch.—Thomas Hatch.—William Hatch.

It will be noticed here that there is no bequest of the foundry, unless it be included in the residuary bequest to his wife, which I do not think. I am rather of opinion that it had already during his life-time been made over with the outstanding debts due to it to his nephew and successor, William Hatch, who had been his "servant" or foreman for some years, as evidenced not only by the mention of him in the will, but by the presence of his initials on some of the bells cast in Joseph's life-time and bearing the latter's name. There are instances at Ashford, Bethersden, Birchington, and Hinxhill, under date 1633-4.

William Hatch's business career was in troubled times—those of the Civil War and Cromwell's usurpation. Men were too busy with other matters to think of bell-founding, and

consequently his tale of work is very poor compared with Joseph's. His largest lots are the ring of three at Lower Halstow (1662), and four at Minster-in-Sheppey (1663). His total is twenty-five only. He died in 1664, and with him the Ulcombe foundry came to an end.

There were, however, other bell-foundries in Kent during the seventeenth century besides that at Ulcombe, and I propose now to pass them under review, and, as nearly as may be, in order of date.

Stephen Swan, the first to be noticed, is, like Gyles Reve, a puzzle as to his place of abode. There are only four of his bells now in existence :

Challock	...	...	...	... 3rd
Darenth	...	...	...	... 2nd
West Peckham	...	...	...	... 3rd
Seal	...	..	...	... 5th

There was formerly one (the 3rd) at Shipbourne by him, and I think the 2nd at Ashurst is also his work ; it has upon it only the donor's name, but the date and lettering are to my mind fairly sufficient proof. Swan's dates only range from 1609 to 1614 ; he uses the plain flat Roman letters, so common at this period, and a diamond-shaped stop. The West Peckham bell has the Royal Arms and the Prince of Wales's Feathers upon the waist ; on the Darenth bell are a quantity of coins.

I have been quite unable to discover where he lived ; I had thought at one time that he might have preceded the Wilnars

(next to be noticed) in the Borden foundry, but a careful examination of the Borden registers fails to confirm my idea. The name does not occur in them. It is, however, not uncommon in many parts of North Kent, and, no doubt, some day will bring a solution of the difficulty.

The Wilnars of Borden, who follow him closely in point of date, were not natives of the place where their foundry was situated, for the only notices of them on the registers relate to their burial, and that of the widow of one of them. This is some slightly corroborative evidence of my opinion that they, or at least the elder of them, John, learned the trade from Swan. The site of the foundry, which seems to have been established about 1618, is well known, and bell-founder's refuse has been dug up on it.

In spite of the serious competition of the Ulcombe and London foundries, John Wilnar had a very good business. There are still seventy-two of his bells hanging in Kentish steeples, ranging in date from 1618 to 1639. He was buried at Borden on the 5th of May, 1640.

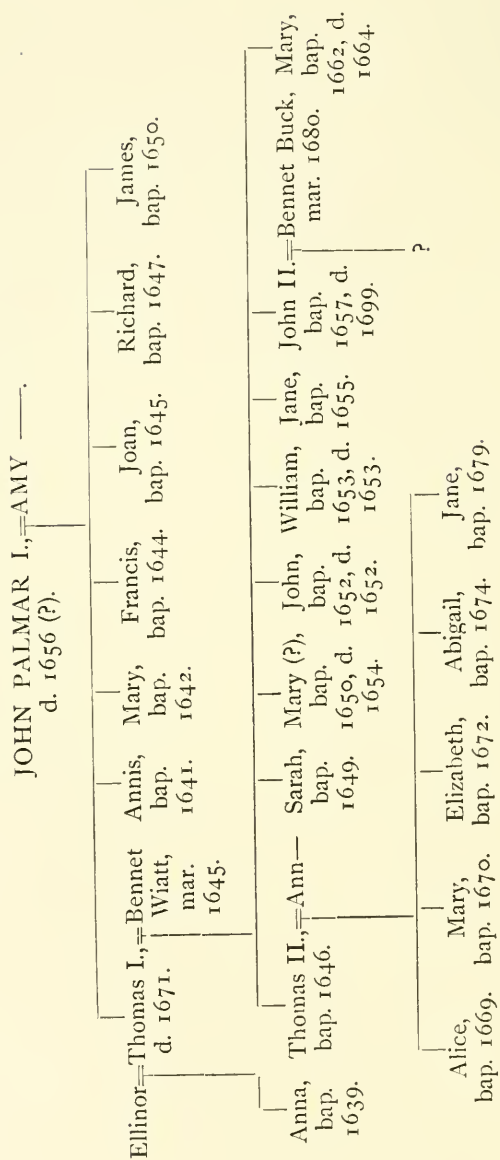
Henry Wilnar, probably a younger brother, succeeded him; but only for a few years, his burial being recorded on 30th January, 1644. He is very scantily represented: the 3rd at Eastry, dated 1629, and the 4th at Challock, dated 1640, are all that remain in Kent. These and another two in Sussex are all of his works that I know of.

Two of John Wilnar's bells, the 3rd and 6th at Hartlip, have their inscription in black letter; all the rest are in Roman type, of the same kind as Swan's, flat broad letters so slightly raised upon the surface of the bell as to be hardly

perceptible to sight or touch, and most difficult to get a good rubbing from. Mr. Tyssen's opinion, in which I quite concur, is that they were not produced with the ordinary stamps, but probably by the use of thin letters cut out of card or sheet tin. This is somewhat confirmed by the fact that the letters occasionally vary in shape and size.

With Henry Wilnar the Borden foundry came to an end, and we must tramp off to East Kent in search of the next local founder, just outside the walls of the City of Canterbury, in the parish of St. Dunstan, where John Palmar appears to have established himself in or about the year 1636, and somewhere about the spot where the South-Eastern Railway Station now stands. He and his successors, Thomas the elder and Thomas the younger, were largely itinerant in their operations, like most of the bell-founders of this century. Their lettering is uniformly rough and badly stamped, and their spelling equally indifferent.

There are many entries in the registers of St. Dunstan's Church relating to them, and I am much indebted to Mr. J. Meadows Cowper for kindly extracting them for me. They enable me to make up the following pedigree :



It is not quite established that Thomas Palmar I. was the son of John Palmar I. He may have been a younger brother. John Palmar II., in the entry of his burial, is styled bell-founder; but I know of no bells from his hand.

Where John Palmar came from is uncertain; there is a bell at Sandhurst, Gloucestershire, inscribed—"John Palmar made mee 1621"—which may be his. He was decidedly itinerant, but I should hardly think he can have wandered from Canterbury to Gloucestershire, and would rather opine that he was an offshoot from one of the west county foundries, and that he cast this bell in his early days before he set up his household gods in the Metropolitan City.

Nine bells of his survive in Kent; the complete ring of four at Ickham, and odd bells at St. Peter's Church, Canterbury, Cooling, Graveney, Littlebourne, and Thanington. His earliest date is 1638, and his latest in Kent, 1649; this is (or rather was) on the 5th at Staplehurst, lately recast; but there are bells at Wisborough Green and Woodmancote, Sussex, dated 1656. There is no entry of his burial in St. Dunstan's registers, and it is possible he may have died and been buried far away while on a journey.

There is a specimen of his workmanship in a grocer's shop in Canterbury, so Mr. J. Meadows Cowper tells me. It is used as a mortar, the crown staple having been chipped or filed off. The inscription on it is—"IOHN PALMAR MADE MEE FOR MARGRET BALDOCKE 1638." Nothing is known of its history, but from its small size (it weighs about 84 lbs.) it was probably a Sanctus or Priest's

bell. It may have come from the Church of St. Mary Bredman, whence two bells are missing.

The 2nd bell at St. Martin's, Canterbury, recast in 1829, bore the inscription—"John Palmar, Thomas Palmar made me, 1641"—and this is the earliest date we have for Thomas I. There are seventeen of his bells still in existence; three at Adisham, dated 1670 (his latest), two at St. Paul's, Canterbury, and two at Patricxbourne, where a note of the recasting by him still exists in the parish books. Single examples at Acryse, Blean, Brenzett, St. George Canterbury, Crundale, West Farleigh, Harbledown, Minster in Thanet, Monkton, and at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Sandwich, make up the tale.

Thomas II. apparently only cast one bell, the 6th at his own Church of St. Dunstan. The date of his death is unknown.

John II., as already stated, has left nothing behind him that has survived to the present time.

A foundry existed at St. Mary Cray for some years during the last quarter of the seventeenth century, under the management of Christopher Hodson; but as it was clearly only a branch of the Hodson's London foundry, I will postpone dealing with it until I come to the Metropolitan bell-founders.

Three bells, two at Hoath and one at St. Margaret at Cliffe, with the initials I. C. and the date 1696, are, I think, the work of a local founder, probably of Canterbury; but I am unable to do more than advance this idea with regard to them.

Before dealing with the London bell-founders, I will dismiss the few examples which Kent has of bells from odd makers— itinerant and other—dated in this century.

John Clarke cast the 2nd bell at Eastry in 1609. This founder's productions occur in all the home counties (except Surrey) and as far northward as Cambridgeshire. He was an itinerant whose head-quarters have not yet been traced ; but evidence adduced in "*Church Bells of Hertfordshire*" tends to show that he was a native of Datchworth in that county, but probably not a resident there.

Four bells, the treble at St. Paul's Cray and three at West Wickham, are from the Chertsey foundry, and cast by Bryan Eldridge the elder ; the 1st and 5th at the last-named church are dated 1640—the last year of his life—and bear the motto, "*Gloria Deo in Excelsis*," which he invariably used during the last ten years of his life. The other two bells are dated 1624, and have his name only. The lettering is plain flat Roman type, like that used by the Wilnars, and produced doubtless in the same way. All that is known about this foundry will be found in "*Surrey Bells*," p. 109. It existed for upwards of a century, and had a large business. The Kent bells were probably cast "on the spot," not at Chertsey.

The 2nd bell at Kemsing has (without any date) the initials W. W., doubtless those of the founder. The only other examples I know of are at Funtington and West Hampnett, Sussex, both dated 1632. The maker is readily recognisable from his habit of placing a quantity of initials on his bells. There is little doubt he was an offshoot from the Reading

foundry belonging to Joseph Carter, and named William Wakefield. ("Church Bells of Sussex," pp. 37 and 44.)

John Darbie cast the 2nd bell at Frindsbury and the 3rd at Rodmersham in 1656 and 1657 respectively. His headquarters were at Ipswich, but not till later on, according to Mr. L'Estrange. He was eminently itinerant all through his career. He died in 1686.

William Hull, of South Malling, Sussex, cast the 3rd bell for Sandhurst in the year 1678. He had been foreman to John Hodson, a London bell-founder, and of his works in that capacity, due mention will be made later on. He seems also to have acted in the same way for other founders—Michael Darbie of Southwark in 1674, and James Bartlett of Whitechapel in 1683—but from 1676 to the date of his death in 1687, he had a foundry of his own at South Malling. His examples are nearly all in Sussex.

A charming little specimen of Low Country work is the Sanctus bell at Frindsbury, bearing the inscription :

GERRIT SCHIMMEL ME FECIT DAVENTRIA
1670

with a very handsome ornamented border. It is only seven and a half inches in diameter, and may have been originally a ship's bell. Very little is known here of the Dutch bell-founders, although their works are not very uncommon ; but I do not think a specimen from a Deventer founder has been found before.

I must not omit to mention here a bell-founder who visited the county in 1671, as we learn from the churchwardens'

accounts of Cranbrook, who employed him after long negotiation to recast a bell for them, no longer, however, in existence. The founder in question was Francis Foster of Salisbury, and the place where he set up his furnaces, temporarily, was Rolvenden ; so far away from his native home, that had it not been for the entry in the Cranbrook books, no one would ever have suspected his presence in the county, or of his having been the author of a bell at Rustington, Sussex, with his initials and the date 1671, which was doubtless cast at the same time.

A bell dated 1653, with the initials I. M., at Allington, I cannot place at all. The lettering is quite new to me, and the initials unrecognisable as those of any founder.

We come now to the London bell-foundries. During the seventeenth century there were two principal ones ; that in Whitechapel, carried on by five successive owners, and that owned by the Hodson family for the last half of the century in some part of London which has not yet been found out. There were, however, also minor men engaged in the trade, and I think it will be most convenient to dismiss them first.

Two bells at Wilmington—the 1st and 3rd—are by William Land, of Houndsditch, London. The former 4th at Crayford, lately recast, was also by him. The bell-founders of this name are rather difficult to deal with. In the church goods inventories for Surrey, of 1552, a sale of old copper and lattyn to “Wylliam Lawnd” is noted as having been made in 1548-9 by the churchwardens of Bermondsey. He may have been a bell-founder, but there is no further evidence on the subject.

Some years later, however, an undoubted bell-founder of the name turns up in the eastern counties, in connection with Stephen Tonni, of Bury St. Edmunds, and later on with Thomas Draper, of Thetford. What connection there was between these two, and their later namesake of Houndsditch, is unknown—probably they were related. The William with whom we are more particularly concerned did some casting for Eltham, of which the particulars will be found in the extracts from the parish accounts in the third part of this book. He died intestate in 1637-8, administration of his goods being granted to his relict “Precilla” on March 17th of that year.

William Lambart, another small London founder, has one example in the county, the 2nd at Beckenham Parish Church. I had thought this his only specimen, but I have lately found another in Essex. His workmanship does not appear to have been of a high order, if we may judge from the inscription on the 4th at Richmond, Surrey :

Lambert made me Weake not fit to Ring
But Bartlet amongst the rest did make me Sing.

But this may be only the gibe of the great bell-founder at the little one. I find from the books of the Founders’ Company that he was admitted to the livery on the 29th July, 1611. In his extreme old age he seems to have come to want; in the year 1679 his name appears among the “Pentioners,” with a payment of 20s., the largest sum in the list; and then he disappears, not unreasonably, for he must have been ninety years of age.

Michael Darbie, of Southwark, but mainly, I think, an itinerant founder, has six specimens in Kent : Aylesford 4th and 5th, Cooling 3rd, Eynsford 3rd and 4th, and Meopham 4th, all dated in 1651-2. His name also appears on the treble at the last-named church, in connection with Anthony Bartlett, of the Whitechapel foundry. Dr. Raven, in the "Church Bells of Cambridgeshire," roundly abuses him and his works, and adduces excellent reasons for so doing. I am afraid that the local tradition at Meopham, which will be found under the head of that church, somewhat confirms my good friend's unfavourable remarks. His dates range from 1650 to 1671, and he is supposed to have been a relation, probably brother of John Darbie, of Ipswich, already mentioned ; but the connection has not been quite clearly made out.

Swingfield Church has one bell, the solitary survivor of a ring of three, all cast by John Wood, in 1696. This founder is another of the peripatetics, and one, moreover, migratory as to his home, a thing very unusual at that time. The contract with him for casting the treble bell at Rochester cathedral, in 1695, is still preserved, and in it he is described as of Chancery Lane, London. There is a similar contract preserved at Berwick in Sussex, dated 24th October, 1698, and there his address is given as "the parish of Bishopsgate in the City of London." In the map of Bishopsgate Ward, in Maitland's History of London a "Bell Yard" is marked on the western side of Bishopsgate Street Without, which *may* possibly mark the place of his abode. I know of no bells of his except in Kent and Sussex ; but perhaps some may turn up in Essex now under systematic examination.

During the last quarter of the seventeenth century there was a bell-foundry in London owned by two men of the name of Wightman, as to the situation of which I am completely at fault at present. They were probably brothers, named respectively William and Philip. There are no bells in Kent by the elder, or by the two jointly ; but Philip is fairly represented. Five bells (out of six) at Yalding ; six (out of eight) at Dartford ; half the ring at Gillingham, and an odd bell at Nettlestead, make up a total of sixteen. No doubt the entire rings at Yalding and Dartford were by him. The Dartford bells are dated 1702, and so in strictness belong to the next century, but are mentioned here for convenience' sake. *William* Wightman was made free of the Founders' Company on 7th February, 1686, and appears on the books for some few years. He is stated to have been the Royal bell-founder.

Having disposed of the odds and ends, I next propose to take up the history of the Whitechapel foundry, which, at the commencement of the century, as already detailed, was in the hands of its probable first possessor, Robert Mot. He, in 1606, sold the business to Joseph Carter, bell-founder of Reading, who did not, however, migrate personally, but sent his son William to London to manage for him, he being then evidently advanced in years.

Joseph Carter is represented in Kent sparsely but well. There are only three bells which bear his name, but they are bells of which any founder might be proud—three of the finest bells in the county—the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at Wittersham, measuring thirty-four, thirty-six, and thirty-nine and a half inches respectively. The two smaller have only the maker's

name, and the date 1609 in the large handsome lettering before alluded to in connection with Robert Mot. The larger bell has the same, and in addition the donor's names incised

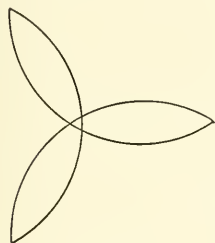


FIG. 42.

below ; it bears also this mark scratched on waist (Fig. 42), which I take to be a sign that it was actually moulded by Thomas Bartlett, who was foreman to the Carters in London, and who eventually succeeded to the business. I have seen it on a bell in Hertfordshire (Shenley 2nd), stamped, not scratched, and with the initials T B, and

dated 1616, while the foundry was still in the Carters' hands. These bells were, without doubt, cast in London, and sent round in a coasting vessel to Rye, whence their transit would be easy except for the last steep ascent to Wittersham. The oxen must have had a heavy drag.

Joseph Carter died early in 1610, his will being proved in April of that year. The Reading foundry passed to his son-in-law, William Yare, that in London to his son, William Carter. Three bells bearing the latter's name still exist in Kent, the single bell at Halstead (the sole survivor of a peal of five, all by him and dated 1612), Southfleet 3rd (1610), and Stourmouth 3rd (1615). The first two of these have Thomas Bartlett's "private mark." The inscriptions on the last two are in the Lombardic lettering before described, at page 71. The Halstead bell has black letter with a record of the donor's pious gift to God and His Church.

The exact date of William Carter's death is not known, but Mr. Tyssen states that Thomas Bartlett succeeded to the

business in 1619, and he and his descendants carried it on until exactly the close of the century. Thomas Bartlett's dates range from 1619 to 1647, but there is nothing in Kent later than 1629. It is quite evident that the local foundries at Ulcombe and Borden practically drove the London men out of the field. His nine examples are at Beckenham, Nos. 3, 4, 5, and 6; Sholdon, Nos. 1 and 3; Otford, treble; Sundridge, 4th, and Keston, singleton. Seven of them, it will be noticed, pretty close to the Metropolis. His lettering is square ordinary Roman type. He uses the foundry-stamp Fig. 43, clearly adapted from Robert Mot's.



FIG. 43.

It is rather a singular circumstance that contemporaneously with Thomas Bartlett of London there was another bell-founder of the same name at Durham, who was buried at the church of St. Mary-le-bow on February 3rd, 1632. I know

nothing of this last founder except the above fact of his burial; but I suppose his works still survive in the North Country.

Anthony Bartlett, who succeeded his father, Thomas, at Whitechapel, seems to have been equally hampered in Kentish work, not only by the Hatches, but also by the rival London foundry owned by the Hodsons, who, for some reason, at present unknown, cultivated the county of Kent largely. There are only seven of Anthony's bells left in Kentish steeples; but to them may fairly be added three lately recast. The ten are—four at Queenborough, two at Aylesford (one recast), and one each at Meopham, Murston (not *in situ*), River and Snodland, these last two having been recast. His dates range from 1650 to 1673. The Meopham bell (treble), dated in the former year, has, in addition to his name, that of Michael Darbie before mentioned. I take it that the latter, going or being on the tramp, was commissioned by Bartlett to carry out the contract made by him for casting or recasting the bell. I know of no other instance of any business connection between the two. Anthony Bartlett had five children, three daughters and two sons, James and Thomas; the former succeeded him at the bell-foundry, the latter went into a cognate line of business, that of the simple founder.* The books of the Founders' Company record his apprenticeship to Edward Swayne for eight years, from 22nd February, 1660.

* Founders and bell-founders must not be confused; the former were congregated in and about Lothbury; the latter inside and outside Aldgate. Thomas Bartlett (the elder), carrying on business outside the City, did not need to, and probably did not, belong to any of the City Companies, certainly not to the Founders.

James Bartlett succeeded to the Whitechapel business in 1676, and carried it on till the close of the century, dying in January, 1701. He had less opposition than his two predecessors, and is consequently much better represented. The Ulcombe foundry had come to an end before his day, and the Hodsons' foundry—at all events in his later days—was evidently on the wane.



FIG. 44.

James Bartlett was a member of the Founders' Company ; I cannot find the entry of his first admission, but he served the offices of under warden in 1691-2, auditor in 1693-4, and upper warden 1695-6. The last entry concerning him is in 1698, when he paid a fine for not serving as master in his turn. The fine is only a small one (£4), so that he probably had good reasons for declining the honour, probably old age or ill-health, or both. His foundry-stamp is Fig. 44.

There is a complete ring of five by him at Milton by Sittingbourne ; Hadlow and Sittingbourne have six each, to which two smaller bells have since been added ; East Malling has five, with also a later treble added or recast. Odd bells at Boughton Monchelsea, Bredgar, Lenham, West Malling, St. Nicholas, Rochester, and Wychling make his lot up to twenty-eight. Dates range from 1681 to 1700. He died without issue and intestate ; the foundry passed into other hands, as we shall see when the bells of the eighteenth century come under notice.

I have now only the Hodsons' foundry to deal with to complete the bells of the seventeenth century ; and it is a matter of sincere regret to me that I can say so little about them, nearly the whole of my information being derived from the bells themselves. John Hodson appears to have commenced business in or before 1654, and from that date until 1667, most of his bells bear the initials of his foreman, William Hull, whom I have already mentioned. In 1669 the 3rd at West Wickham has the initials both of William Hull and Christopher Hodson, indicating that the latter, presumably John's son, was coming to the fore. William Hull's initials thenceforward disappear altogether, and Christopher's take their place until 1676. Four examples, all cast in 1677, state that they are by " John and Christopher Hodson ;" and then the business appears to have been split up, John remaining in London, and Christopher starting a branch or independent business at St. Mary Cray. This lasted until 1687, and during this period, as may well be expected, the bulk of the business bears Christopher's name alone, there being twenty-

six of his bells as against sixteen which purport to be by John. After 1687, Christopher's name disappears, and we have John Hodson by himself until 1693. There are, however, only five bells which belong to this last category. I am not at all sure, considering the wide interval of time between John Hodson's earliest date, 1654, and his latest, 1693, that there were not two of the name.

John Hodson's bells in the first or "William Hull" stage number twenty-three. They include Nos. 3, 4 and 5 at St. Mary Cray, dated 1655, the largest of which alone bears Hull's initials; Nos. 1, 3 and 4 at Farningham; an entire ring of five at Milton by Gravesend (to which a treble has been since added), the present Nos. 2 and 4 of which (*i.e.*, the old Nos. 1 and 3) are by William Hull; two bells at Seal, two at Cudham, and two at Sundridge, and half-a-dozen odd ones at as many different places.

His examples in the second stage, with the initials C. H., are twenty-nine in number. Three entire rings of five each at Chelsfield (1672), Halling (1675), and Woodnesborough (1676), make up more than one half of these. For the rest there are two at Eynsford, and two at High Halstow, and ten odd bells.

Third stage, "John and Christopher Hodson," number only four, as already stated. They are—West Malling 3rd, Meopham 2nd and 3rd, and Pembury 2nd.

The (presumably) London-cast bells, while the St. Mary Cray foundry was in existence, are sixteen: four each at Alkham (1683), Appledore (1685), and Brookland (1685), two at Staple, and one each at Nonington and Buckland by Dover.

The five bells belonging to John Hodson's "last stage of all," are at St. Alphege, Canterbury, St. Nicholas at Wade, Lydd, Marden, and Shoreham.

The site of the foundry at St. Mary Cray is still traditionally known. It was in the High Street, on or about the spot where the blacksmith's forge now stands under the chestnut tree at the foot of the hill on which the vicarage is built. Entries in the parish registers show that it was certainly established in 1677, for on the 1st October in that year, the baptism of "Christopher, the sonne of Christopher Hodgson" (*sic*), is recorded. The only other entries are the burials of "Hugh, son of Mr. Xtopher Hodson," on the 16th May, 1679; and "Susan Smythe, y^e daughter of Mr. Ch^r Hodgson," on 20th May, 1687. I am much indebted to the Rev. Andrew Welch and his son, Mr. Stanley B. Welch, for the above particulars.

The bells cast by Christopher Hodson during his residence here, and which now exist, are twenty-six in number. They include two entire rings of five each at St. Leonard's, Deal (1685), and Godmersham (1687), and one of three at Dymchurch (1685), three bells at Plumstead, and two at St. Luke's, Charlton. Eight odd bells at various places make up the total. No doubt at one time there were a good many more. For instance, the bell cast by him at Rochester Cathedral has been recast. The last and present centuries have seen a very large amount of recasting and remodelling of rings in Kent.

The Hodsons' lettering is large square sturdy Roman type, with a somewhat profuse use of stops and coins. They had also a weakness for double-lined inscriptions, which involve a

considerable amount of extra labour to "rub." They must have done a very good trade in their time, for there is scarcely a county in southern England which does not contain some specimens of their workmanship.

This finishes the bells of the seventeenth century. There are, however, a few founders whose business career belongs partly to that and partly to the following century, although their Kent examples all date later than 1700, and I will deal with them next.

Matthew Bagley, the son of John Bagley, of Chacombe, Northants, was baptized 6th April, 1653, and served his time with his uncle, Henry Bagley, a well-known bell-founder, and continued there until the year 1685 or thereabouts, when he came to London. Probably, after his uncle's death in 1684, he could not get on with his cousin, Henry Bagley the younger, who continued the business at Chacombe. Anyhow, to London he came, and established himself on Windmill Hill in that part of the parish of St. Giles, Cripplegate, which lies outside the City of London, and which was constituted a separate parish under the dedication of St. Luke early in the eighteenth century. The Wesleyan Tabernacle now occupies the site of his works. Beesley's "History of Banbury" mentions a local tradition that he left Chacombe "in consequence of the loss occasioned by the bursting of his mould while casting a bell;" and that he, it appears, went to Woolwich, and there lost his life while "proving a piece of ordnance."

Tradition here is "a little mixed." The tragic affair in which Matthew Bagley and his son lost their lives has been, I think, split up into two separate events.

In the books of the Founders' Company from 1686 till 1715 I find his name entered in a list of men "Free of other Companies." He was doubtless paying an annual fee to the company for the privilege of binding his apprentices at Founders' Hall, as I find him doing in 1688. His principal business seems, however, to have been casting ordnance rather than bells, and his contract work for this with Government appears to have been large. In the MSS. of Captain Stewart, of Alltyrodyn-Llandyssil, under date 1715-16, are "several orders to Mr. Bagley to cast and deliver to the office of Ordnance divers brass works." *

And it was in carrying out this work that he met with his dreadful end. There is an account of it in the *Flying Post* of Saturday, 12th May, 1716, as follows :

"Last Thursday night about 9 a'clock a tragical accident happened at the Royal Foundry near Upper Moorfields where "while the workmen were casting a Canon the metal that was "running into the mould flew up on a sudden with very great "noise and violence and came down like Drops of Fire not only "upon all the workmen but Spectators (of whom there was a "great Number to see the performance). Several attended from "the Tower particularly Mr. Hall Clerk of the Ordinance who "was so sorely wounded that he dy'd next morning. The Master "Founder and his son with above 20 others were also very much "hurt. Tis generally agreed that this sad accident was owing to "the dampness of the Mould."

The *Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, in a similar account, states that "Bagley the Master Founder has lost

* "Tenth Report H. M. Historical MSS. Com." Fourth appendix, p. 142.

his Eyes and his son and sixteen others are desperately wounded."

The lamentable sequel is tersely summed up in the following entries in the burial registers of St. Giles, Cripplegate :

1716, May 22, Mathew Bagley, founder—Kill'd.

„ „ 26, Mathew Bagley, Jun., founder—Kill'd.

He died intestate, administration of his goods being granted to his widow Julia in the following year.

His bells in Kent (or anywhere else) are not numerous. A complete ring of five at Northbourne, dated 1711, the treble at Addington, 4th at Goodnestone by Sandwich, and the 3rd at Old Romney make up the total. The Addington bell is very noteworthy for the praiseworthy but ludicrous attempt he has made to reproduce the inscription on the bell which it replaced. The original legend ran

CRISTVS PERPETVE DET NOBIS GAVDIA
VITE

which from inability to decipher the Lombardic letters he has made into

ARISTVS PARPATVA DA NOBIS TAVDIX
VITA.

Matthew Bagley had another son, hight James, who cast the 4th bell for Rochester Cathedral in 1710, and his guarantee of this "for a year and a day," on behalf of his father, is still preserved among the muniments of the Dean and Chapter.

There is a bell by James Bagley at Woodmansterne, Surrey, dated 1717, so he would seem to have gone on for a time after his father's death; but the two just noticed are all the productions of his that I know of.

Isaac Hadley was Matthew's contemporary. He was admitted to the livery of the Founders' Company and fined for steward, 4th May, 1685, and his name appears regularly in the quarterage lists until 1705, when it disappears, probably through his failure to pay. Eleven years later, on the 6th August, 1716, the minute book records that

“ Mr. Isaac Hadley petitioning the Compy to have his Livery
“ ffine return'd being reduced. The Ct returned him Six pounds
“ accordingly and tooke his Receipt and consent to bee struck
“ out of the Livery for the future.”

I find him binding apprentices at the Hall in 1685, 1687 and 1691.

There are three bells bearing his name in Kent, and none elsewhere that I know of; the three are the two bells at Higham (old church), and the solitary bell at Kingsdown by Wrotham, all dated 1713. I suspect, however, that he had a hand in casting the peal of eight for St. Nicholas, Deptford, in 1701-2, the 7th of which has the initials S N I H. The former pair certainly standing for Samuel Newton, as the latter do, I think, for Isaac Hadley.

Samuel Newton's foundry was, like Bagley's, in the parish of St. Giles, Cripplegate, and the site of it is denoted by a court called Founder's Court, on the south side of Fore Street, a little westward from Aldermanbury postern. It is marked in old Ward maps, but recent rebuilding has obliterated all

trace of it. He, too, was a member of the Founders' Company, made free 9th February, 1690, admitted on the livery in 1693-4, served under warden, 1706-7, and was elected assistant in the same year; was upper warden, 1709-10, and master in the following year. He died some time in the early part of 1716, between February and May, intestate, administration being granted to his widow Deborah in June, 1716. He left a son John, who was apprenticed to him, and took up his freedom in October, 1722, but with whom, as he was not a bell-founder, we have nothing to do. Besides the ring at St. Nicholas, Deptford, there is only one other bell of Samuel's left in Kent, the 3rd at West Farleigh, which is inscribed

SAM NEWTON & I PEELE MADE MEE 1705.

There is a bell by him at Kingsbury, Middlesex, and another at Totteridge, in Herts, bearing his name alone. Of two bells at Rettenden, Essex, one (the 4th) has a similar inscription to the West Farleigh bell, the other (the 3rd) has I P FECIT only; both are dated 1704.

John Peele, whose name we find associated with Newton's, was his apprentice, bound to him for eight years, from 5th February, 1693-4. He was the son of Samuel Peele "Latt of Bishopsgatt silkman deceased." Being out of his time, he took up his freedom on 8th May, 1704, and was admitted to the livery of the Founders' Company in 1705-6. He steadily rose, served under and upper warden in due course, and in 1721 was elected master. There are no other bells by him than have been already noted; but Mr. Bryan Faussett states

that the then peal of five heavy bells at Aldington were by him, and dated 1705. The connection of his name with Samuel Newton's does not necessarily denote a partnership, as will be readily gathered from the many instances already mentioned of founder's and foreman's names being found together ; but in this case I think the two were in actual partnership. Peele was still living in 1752, having left the court of the Founders' Company six years before. He had evidently fallen on evil days, for in May, 1752, he petitioned the court for relief, which was, of course, given, and repeated in later years. Three years later his widow applied for and obtained like assistance.

There is a bell (the only one) at Plaxtol, bearing the name of William Furner. I cannot trace him as a bell-founder ; if he were, he was probably a local genius ; but I think him more likely to have been the donor of the bell in question. The date is 1709. There is a trace of him in the Bethersden churchwardens' accounts for 1736.

William Savill, a London man and a member of the Founders' Company, cast the single bell at Belvedere in 1757. His foundry was somewhere in the Minories. There are bells by him at St. David's Cathedral and St. Alphege, in the City of London. He served his apprenticeship with Joseph Mayor and Wm. Weare, took up his freedom in the Founders' Company in 1765, was liveryman in 1772, under warden 1795, assistant 1796, upper warden 1797, and master in 1799, and that is all that I know about him.

John Waylett, an itinerant founder with a (supposed) home

in London, is well represented in Kent from 1717 to 1727. At one part of his career he was certainly travelling for Samuel Knight, of Holborn, whom I shall notice by-and-by. This was the case in 1721, when he had his furnaces going at Hythe, and cast there, *inter alia*, three bells for Stowting. The contract for this is still preserved in the parish chest, and will be found printed at full length in the third part of this book. The contract (which is for a new bell-frame as well as for recasting the ring of four bells) is made with Job Potter of Leeds, evidently the bell-hanger, and, so far as the recasting goes, was carried out by John Waylett for account of Samuel Knight, as the inscriptions on the bells themselves tell us. Ruckinge, and Elmstead too, both possess bells cast in the same year and in the same way.

Warehorne and Saltwood have some bells also apparently cast during this journey, but there is no mention of Knight's having anything to do with them. It is possible that the orders for Elmstead, Stowting, and Ruckinge were "devilled;" but on the other hand, Waylett was certainly casting for Knight in Hertfordshire in 1716.

Waylett's most important works are a ring of six at Hunton, three at Linton, and three at Ash by Sevenoaks, all dated 1717. Five at East Sutton, dated 1719-20. Hythe formerly had five by him, cast in 1720. His latest work is the 6th at Boughton Monchelsea, dated 1727. Altogether he has somewhere between forty and fifty specimens in the county. He was a hard-working man, his bells being fairly abundant all over the home counties, and his workmanship, though rough, is honest and good. He appears to have been

a native of the eastern counties, and probably learned his trade at Sudbury, Suffolk, with John Thornton.*

From founders other than Londoners during this century we have a very few. The 6th at Hoo St. Werburgh is by Thomas Gardiner, of Sudbury, Suffolk, whose works are found in abundance all over the eastern counties, with dates varying from 1711 to 1759. Very little is known of the Sudbury foundry, but when Dr. Raven's long promised "Church Bells of Suffolk" appears, we shall doubtless learn all about them. It is rather a curious coincidence that while Hoo St. Werburgh has the sole example in Kent from an eastern counties' founder, the church of Hadleigh, in Essex, exactly on the opposite side of the river Thames, has an equally unique example from a Kentish founder—a "Wilnar" bell.

The entire peal of six at Mereworth, dated 1746, is the work of Joseph Eayre, of St. Neots. He was the son of Thomas Eayre, of Kettering, Northants, and started the St. Neots foundry some time between 1731 and 1735, putting up a large brick building in the shape of a bell. Mr. North's "Church Bells of Northants" contains all that is known respecting him, his belongings and successors, to which I beg to refer the reader.

I have already mentioned Samuel Knight, of Holborn, in

* In the minute-book of the Founders' Company, under date 1740, I find it "ordered that Mr. Waylett and Mr. Robert Cattilin, Founders, be admitted Love Brothers" (Honorary Members). And in 1742 William Waylett (elsewhere described as Citizen and Vintner) was sworn in and admitted. Probably we have here a son of John Waylett, but I do not know him as a *bell*-founder.

connection with John Waylett. He was the last of a family of bell-founders, who for the best part of two centuries had been carrying on business at Reading; the first of them probably migrated from London about the middle of the sixteenth century, and the last found his way back there, according to Mr. Tyssen, about 1710. I am rather inclined to place it some few years later, as his early Sussex examples may well have been cast at Reading or whilst he was still residing there. There is nothing in Kent of his earlier than 1721, and these earliest ones were cast for him by John Waylett as already detailed. His bells are exceedingly roughly cast, and equally sweet in tone, as everyone who has heard the ring at St. Saviour's, Southwark, will agree. It is, therefore, not surprising to find that Kent possesses between eighty and ninety bells cast by him. Of these the most important are—seven of the ring of ten at Canterbury Cathedral, dated 1726 to 1728. An entire ring of eight at St. Mary's, Dover (1724-5); rings of six at Chislett (1729, part recast), Hollingbourne (1723), Whitstable (1730), and Wickham Breaux (1728); of five each at Kingsnorth, Newington by Hythe and Sellinge (at this last the tenor has been recast). Birchington and Little Chart have four each, Horsmonden and Stowting three each, and some nineteen or twenty odd bells at various other places complete his lot. He died in 1739, and was succeeded in his business by Robert Catlin, who had previously been a bell-hanger, doubtless working in connection with Knight. He was elected a "love brother" of the Founders' Company, 1740 (see p. 107), but there is no record as to whether he was ever sworn in as such.

Catlin's bells range in date from 1740 to 1751, and number about fifty. There are only two entire peals, viz., Lympe five, dated 1742-4, and Teynham six, dated 1743. Faversham and Hackington have each six out of a total of eight, and Leeds six out of a total of ten. Three of the rings at Lenham, St. Peter's, and Swanscombe are also by him, and there are thirteen odd bells at other churches.

Catlin was succeeded in the Holborn foundry by Thomas Swain, who, however, did very little business in Kent; two bells at St. George's, Gravesend, and one at St. Peter's, being all I have found. He retired from business in 1781, and with him this foundry came to an end. I have been unable to identify the part of St. Andrew's parish where it was situated, but I think it must have been in Shoe Lane.

I will now trace the fortunes of the Whitechapel foundry through the eighteenth century. It will be remembered that at my last mention of it, it was in the hands of James Bartlett. After his death in 1701 it passed to Richard Phelps, who was, according to Mr. Lukis, a native of Avebury, Wilts. Where he learned his trade it is impossible to say. There is a bell at Kempley, in Gloucestershire, which bears the name of Thomas Felps, apparently the founder thereof in 1680; but it is a unique specimen, and I am afraid the foundation (no joke intended) is too narrow to build a theory upon as to Richard Phelps's paternity.

As there is a bell at Burham by him dated 1700, it is possible he was casting before he took to the Whitechapel foundry; but on the other hand he may have been working for James Bartlett, who was in bad health the last few years

of his life, as appears from his electing to be fined rather than serve as master of the Founders' Company. Richard Phelps's occupancy of the Whitechapel foundry very speedily revived what was apparently a declining business; and during the whole of his career, 1701 to 1738, he was, I think, in spite of Knight's opposition, certainly the principal founder in London, probably in the kingdom.

There are just upon ninety specimens of his handiwork in Kentish steeples; for the most part odd bells, although there are some few entire rings. Such are Wingham eight, dated 1720; and its neighbouring parish of Preston with five, dated 1712; and Hever, whose five are dated 1703. St. Alphege, Greenwich, has only five left of its original peal of eight, and St. George's, Gravesend, only three out of a similar number. Eastling has five left out of six. Of odd bells Biddenden has two and a sanctus, Goudhurst three, Headcorn three, and Southfleet three. There are two each at Benenden, Brenchley, Chevening, Elmstone, Erith, Lenham, and Wormshill. His earliest is the Burham treble (1700), and latest Gillingham 3rd (1737).

Phelps died in August, 1738, and by his will bequeathed the foundry, with all its appliances, to his foreman, Thomas Lester, who removed it, however, to a fresh site on the opposite or southern side of High Street, Whitechapel, where it has remained ever since. He was a scion of a family of decided tastes for founding, for there are Lesters on the books of the Founders' Company for nearly two centuries before his time. In 1672, Thomas Lester, the son of Thomas Lester, of Newbury, Berks, yeoman, was bound apprentice

for seven years to Thomas Holmes. He took up his freedom in due course, but never attained to office, and died in 1723.

I have little doubt that Thomas Lester, the bell-founder, was a relation. He is described as the son of William Lester, late of Bricksworth, Northants, farmer, deceased. He was admitted "by redemption," and so it is uncertain where he learned his trade, probably with Phelps, who was, so far as I know, not a member of any Company. His business was outside the City, and it was not necessary. It was not until 1743, some years after acquiring the ownership of the business, that Lester joined the Company. He was elected to the livery in 1744, and became a member of the court in 1750. In 1766 he paid fine rather than serve as warden.

There are only twenty bells in Kent which bear his name. The ring of eight at Harrietsham is his principal achievement. There are two each at Birling, Linton, and Marden, and half a dozen other "odd" ones.

In 1752 he took into partnership Thomas Pack, who, like himself, had previously been foreman in the concern. He too was a founder by descent, son or grandson of Thomas Pack, who was son of Thomas Pack, of Ockham, Surrey, yeoman, and was apprenticed to Roger Lane in 1671, and died in 1732.

Lester and Pack are well represented in Kent; Wrotham has a ring of eight of theirs, Petham and Selling each one of six. Great Chart, Chilham, Erith, and Hothfield have each four, and there are forty-three others scattered over the county.

Lester died in 1769, providing by his will that his nephew, William Chapman, was to be taken into partnership. He had previously been employed at the foundry, and the clock bell at Canterbury Cathedral, "Great Dunstan," the largest bell in the county, dated 1762, bears an inscription that it was moulded by William Chapman. Lester's wishes were, of course, carried out, and those bells which were in hand at the time of his death are inscribed "Lester, Pack; and Chapman." Such are the 2nd at Willesborough and the (former) 6th at Tenterden.

The firm then became "Pack and Chapman" only, and their Kentish connection remained as good as ever until Pack's death from consumption in 1781. From them we have entire peals at Aldington, Boughton under Blean, Folkestone (since recast), Sevenoaks, Throwley, Tunbridge, and Wye. Eight-and-twenty odd bells make up their tale.

William Chapman carried on the business alone for but a very short time after Pack's death. The 5th at Herne and the 5th at Hoo St. Werburgh, dated 1781, are both by him. He then took into partnership William Mears, who had learned his business at the foundry, and had started in business for himself some four or five years before. I think the reason is not far to seek; Chapman, although in the prime of life, was in bad health (he died of consumption four years later), and he doubtless preferred that the foundry should pass to one who had been already connected with it, and would keep up the old traditions. So the firm became Chapman and Mears.

There are ten bells in Kent which were cast by William

Mears before the partnership was entered into. They are the 1st and 3rd at the Church of St. Dunstan, in his native city of Canterbury, dated 1777, and the entire peal of eight at St. Peter's, Sandwich.

From Chapman and Mears united we have eighteen examples. Chart Sutton ring of six (1783), seven out of the ten at Maidstone Parish Church, and five odd bells at other places.

On Chapman's death in 1784, Mears dropped into the whole of the business, and for three years his name occurs alone on bells. The only entire peals cast during this period for Kent were for Hernhill (five, dated 1785) and St. John's, Margate (six, also dated 1785); two trebles have since been added at the latter church. There are nine other odd bells. In 1787 the firm became W. and T. Mears, and during the next three years sent only some six or seven bells into Kent, which have survived till now—most of these are inscribed :

W & T MEARS LATE LESTER PACK & CHAPMAN.

Rather a curious case of "throwing back" or atavism in bell-founding.

William Mears retired altogether in 1789, and Thomas Mears (the elder) carried the business on by himself for the rest of the century, and for some few years into the next. A few of his earliest bells, dated in 1790, also bear the reference to the prior triple partnership. His principal works dated prior to 1800 are the ring of eight at Ash by Sandwich and

that of six at the parish church, Eltham. His odd examples number twenty.

There are two offshoots from the Whitechapel foundry during the latter half of the eighteenth century—one established close by, and one at the far end of London, in Chelsea.

Sarah Oliver, Lester's grand-daughter, married one Robert Patrick, a cheesemonger in Whitechapel, and he, for some mysterious reason or other, started a rival business. He probably got hold of some of the Whitechapel workmen, and he turned out some very decent bells; but I doubt if the venture was altogether a successful one. There are four of his bells in Kent—two at Biddenden and two at Chiddingstone—all dated 1784.

Thomas Janaway, of Chelsea, was the other offshoot, and his works, too, are of good quality, showing the Whitechapel characteristics. He, unlike Patrick, was decidedly successful during his business career of nearly a quarter of a century; but his connection clearly did not extend far from London. For Kent he cast the ring of six at Bexley in 1763, of which the 2nd has been since recast, and that of eight at Bromley in 1773. The Priest's bell at the latter church, and odd bells at Knockholt and St. Germain's Chapel, Blackheath, are his remaining examples. There were others formerly at Brasted and Great Mongeham.

There is only one other founder of this century to mention—"Old" John Warner, who cast the 2nd and 3rd bells for Strood in 1788. He was the elder son of Jacob Warner, who, about the year 1740, was carrying on business in Wood Street,

Cheapside, as a brass-founder, although only free of the Tinplate Workers' Company. This was decidedly distasteful to the authorities of the Founders' Company, as an abuse of their undoubted though rarely enforced rights and privileges, and in February, 1740, it was ordered "that the clerk write to Mr. Warner as from the Company to desist from exercising the trade of a casting founder." But worthy Jacob was a member of the Society of Friends—people never very easy to lead or drive—and he resisted passively, not to say obstinately, the attempt to drive him. There is no direct record of the result in the Company's books, but the latter clearly triumphed in the long run, after what appears to have been a protracted fight. John Warner, Jacob's elder son, was bound apprentice to a neighbouring "Friend" and founder, John Cutteridge, and Jacob was admitted as a love brother, or honorary member. There is no entry of this last fact, but it must have been so, for in 1761 Tomson Warner, Jacob's younger son, was admitted to the freedom *by patrimony*.

John Warner, having duly served his time, was made free on August 1, 1757, and it is noted that he, "being one of the people called Quakers, affirmed" on the occasion instead of being sworn.

In due course Jacob was gathered to his fathers, and the two brothers succeeded to the business, the sign of the shop being the "Three Bells and a Star"; they afterwards moved to Jewin Crescent, Cripplegate, where Tomson Warner and his descendants have remained to the present day.

In 1780 there was a split between the brothers, and John betook himself to Fleet Street, where he established himself

as a bell and brass founder, under the name of John Warner, and later on as John Warner and Sons.

There are only two of his bells in Kent, those at Strood before mentioned. There are not, indeed, many anywhere—the only ring I know of by him being at Shalford, in Surrey, of which the tenor has been recast by the descendants of his brother.

He reached a good old age, living well into the following century, serving the office of master of the Founders' Company for the second time in 1811-12, when he must have been at least 75 years of age. His brother Tomson predeceased him. He, too, had served master in 1786-7.

And so ends my tale of the eighteenth century bells of Kent.

On the subject of the 711 bells cast during the present century there is not much to be written. They can hardly be said to be of antiquarian interest—rather, indeed, the other way about; for no doubt in a great many cases they fill the places of bells which one would very much rather have seen preserved, I may instance Ryarsh and Sutton at Hone as cases in point. And in connection with this subject of recasting or, rather, replacing (for it is the rarest occurrence, I take it, for the new bell or bells to be cast from the metal actually contained in the old ones), perhaps I may be permitted a slight “growl” on the modern system of splicing, which in so many cases has led to unsatisfactory results. I do not think that our founders of the present day pay sufficient regard to the *shape* of the bells composing the ring to which they are going to add. I will take Sittingbourne Parish Church as a

case in point. Here two new trebles have been added to the original ring of six, and although the new bells are quite true in note, yet there is not the music got out of the whole eight as there was out of the six. And I think the reason is this : the original bells, being exactly two centuries old, are long waisted, while the two new ones are of the short type now usually cast, what are called “ringers’ bells,” easy to raise and ring ; but from their difference in shape, and consequent difference in their curves, dissimilar in their harmonics. My firm opinion is, and I shall be glad if some of our enterprising founders would institute experiments to confirm or confute me, that bells added to a long-waisted ring should also be moulded with long waists. This may give at first a considerable amount of additional trouble, but I think the game will be well worth the candle. I may mention that although I have instanced Sittingbourne Church in this connection, it is by no means the only case. I know of several others precisely similar, and in other counties beside Kent.

Liberavi animam meam—and now we will proceed to a very brief notice of the Kentish church bells of the nineteenth century ; and as they are nearly all of London make, I will deal first with those cast at the Whitechapel foundry, which has steadily continued its operations till now under various managements. At the close of the eighteenth century it was, as we have seen, in the hands of Thomas Mears, the elder, and it continued so until 1804. He sent a large number of bells into Kent, of which I will only notice the entire rings, which are Bobbing (six), Borden (eight), Boxley (six), Cranbrook (eight, of which two have since been recast), Frittenden

(eight, two of which have also been recast), Hythe (eight, to which two new trebles have been added), Sheldwich (six, of which the two smallest have been recast), and Shorne, six.

Thomas Mears the younger was then taken into partnership, and the firm became T. Mears and Son until 1809. There are only two entire rings of theirs in Kent, viz., Edenbridge and St. Laurence; at the former church the tenor has since been re-cast or added, I am not sure which.

Thomas Mears the younger was alone from 1810 to 1844. From him we have the rings at Eastwell, Rolvenden, Tunstall, Westerham, and Woolwich Parish Church, and also the ring of twelve in the tower at Quex Park, Birchington. The tenors at both Eastwell and Westerham have been since recast.

Charles and George Mears had the foundry from 1844 to 1859; their entire peals are only two, Kilndown and Pluckley. Speldhurst has five out of six of their manufacture. Charles Mears died in (or I think before) 1859, and for a short time George Mears's name alone is found on bells—the tenor at Westerham to wit, above mentioned. The firm then became Mears and Stainbank, which name is continued to the present day, although there is neither a Mears nor a Stainbank in it now. The rings at Bekesborne, Cheriton, Crayford, Cuxton, St. John's, Deptford, and Leigh were all cast under this latest régime.

The firm of John Warner and Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, descendants and successors of Tomson Warner, before mentioned, have only been casting large bells since 1850; their Kentish rings number five only: Chiselhurst Parish Church, St. Luke's, Deptford, the new church at

Higham, St. Michael's, Maidstone, and St. Peter's at Tunbridge Wells.

Messrs. Taylor and Co., the present representatives of a bell-founding business which has been carried on for very many years at various places in the kingdom, have now been long settled at Loughborough. As may be expected from the distance away, they are not numerously represented in Kent. There are, however, entire rings by them at Charing, Cliffe at Hoo, and Folkestone Parish Church, and several other odd bells, including Nos. 1 and 4 of the ring of six at Great Chart.

Messrs. Gillett and Co., of Croydon, are as yet young in bell-founding, and are consequently, though nearer in point of situation, still more sparsely represented. Brasted and Southborough have entire rings by them, and there are odd bells at Ashford and Aylesford, and other places, as will be found in the third part of this book.

One solitary bell, the new treble at Willesborough, owes its origin to a west-country firm, Messrs. Llewellyn and James, of Bristol. The bell in question is smoothly and neatly cast, but I know nothing of its quality. The firm, however, I understand, is not without honour in the west of England, where, of course, its works are sufficiently numerous to be judged of.

PART II.

LOCAL USES.

THIS book would deal imperfectly with its subject if it failed to give some account of the local uses made of church bells in the county. These, so far as I have been able to collect them, are given in detail under the head of each parish. It is a matter of regret to me that the information is imperfect, about one-third of the clergy having sent no reply to my list of queries, so that the details which are given must only be taken as a sample of the whole.

Local customs may be divided into two classes—ancient and modern—the former being survivals of pre-Reformation uses, such as the “Evening Ave” or Curfew Peal; while under the latter would be classed peal-ringing on church or secular festivals.

I propose now briefly to summarise the ancient uses which still obtain in the county, and then to deal with one which is both ancient and modern—the Passing Bell or Death Knell. The modern uses I must leave my reader to tabulate for himself, if he will, from the later pages of this book.

It will be most convenient, in such summary, to take Sunday

uses first, then week-day customs, and lastly, special uses peculiar to particular times and seasons.

SUNDAY USES.—In the Middle Ages the usual rule for services was—Matins at 8, Mass at 9; but I think it is somewhat doubtful whether, as a general rule, there was a separate bell at 9 to call to the higher service. I know of no other way of accounting for the fact, that while the survival of the 8 o'clock bell is comparatively common, that of the 9 o'clock is exceedingly rare.

At some places, however (and those, as a rule, country towns rather than villages), the hours were 7 and 8 instead of 8 and 9. Kent has its examples of this; and at Cranbrook, Edenbridge, Greenwich, and Wrotham, the bells are still rung at those hours. At Cobham the 7 o'clock bell has only recently been discontinued, that at 8 still surviving. At Speldhurst the peals are at 7 and 8 from 14th February to 5th November,* while during the other part of the year they are at the normal hours of 8 and 9.

The churches where the ancient Matins (8 o'clock) and Mass (9 o'clock) bells are still *both* rung, are Biddenden, Leigh, and, as above mentioned, Speldhurst. At Eastry and Sittingbourne they were rung until quite recent times. Other, but doubtful cases of the "double survival," are as follows: Cowden at 8, called "Service Bell," and 9.30, called "Sermon Bell;" Crayford at 8 and 10 (the latter peal may be a survival of the ancient sanctus bell rung in the Mass); Hawkhurst, 8

* These are curious dates—St. Valentine to Guy Fawkes. I suspect originally the limits were Candlemas and All Saints.

and 9, the latter being called "Warning Bell;" Marden, 8 and 9.30.

The 8 o'clock or Matins peal is still rung at Ash by Wrotham, Ashurst, Bidborough, Bishopsbourne, Brookland, Cobham, North Cray, St. Mary Cray, Eastchurch, Elham, Eynesford, Fordwich, Goodnestone by Sandwich, Goudhurst, Horsmonden, Hothfield, Hunton, Ickham, Kemsing, East Langdon, Loose, Lynstead, Mereworth, Milstead, Newchurch, West Peckham, Platt,* Rolvenden, Sandhurst, Seal, Southborough (?), Staplehurst, Stowting, Strood, Sundridge, Warehorne, Westerham, Wittersham, Wye, and Yalding. At Kennington, Snave, and Swanscombe it has been rung within memory. The bell rung at this hour at Holy Cross, Canterbury, Egerton, Frinstead, and Westwell, is called the "Sermon Bell," and may or may not be a survival of the old Matins peal. The same may be said of the "Warning" bells at Hayes and Offham at 8, and at Newnham at 8.30. Nine o'clock peals ("Mass Bell") are rung at Great Mongeham and Newington by Hythe only. There are "Sermon" bells at this hour at Edenbridge and Kingstone—neither, I think, survivals.

A bell at 9.30 at Hernhill is a solitary abnormal use—probably not ancient—and the same may be said of the 10 o'clock "Warning Bell" at Ewell.

MIDDAY PEALS.—These—varying slightly as to time—being in some places at noon, in others at 1 o'clock, or at the close of morning service, are undoubtedly survivals of ancient uses,

* A reminiscence, not a survival, as the church is only about forty years old.

but of what it is rather difficult to say. The midday Angelus—so common on the Continent—was almost unknown in England; and I am more inclined to reckon them as survivals of the Sanctus peal in the Mass. There is some confirmation of this theory in the former custom at Aylesford, viz., to ring the little Sanctus bell at the close of morning service. The churches where midday ringing on Sundays still obtains are Biddenden, Edenbridge, Egerton, Ickham, Leigh, Great Mongeham, Newchurch, Sandhurst, Seal, Staplehurst, Warehorne, Wrotham, Wye, and Yalding. At Kennington and Loose it obtained formerly, but has been discontinued.

A bell at 1.30 at Hawkhurst is stated to be merely a warning bell for afternoon service.

A decidedly peculiar use is reported from Edenbridge, viz., a peal at 6 p.m. on Sundays. I am strongly of opinion this is a (probably solitary) instance of survival of the custom for which the good Protestant Grand Jury of Canterbury prevented the parson of St. Peter's Church in that city in 1538, viz., "tolling the Avie-bell in the said church after the evening song done." Altogether the Edenbridge people have, of course quite unwittingly, conserved ancient Sunday bell-uses very perfectly. Matins bell at 7, Mass bell at 8 a.m., Sanctus peal at 1 p.m., and Ave peal at 6, added to a doubtful survival in the shape of a sermon bell at 9 a.m., make up a good record.

WEEKDAY USES.—The survivals of old bell-customs with regard to these are limited to two—the morning and evening "Ave" peals—the latter being also known as the "ignitegium" or Curfew. I will deal with the "Morning Ave"

first. The only absolute instance which has directly reached me of this is Canterbury Cathedral, where it is rung daily at 5.45 in summer, and 6.45 in winter. At Cowden it has been rung until a few years ago, but apparently only during the winter months. The historian of Ash by Sandwich states it to be rung there at 5 o'clock; Hasted notes it as rung at Dartford at 4, and Boys records its use at the same hour at St. Peter's, Sandwich; but whether these three cases still obtain, I know not. One other recorded use—that at St. George's, Canterbury (at 4 a.m.), in 1586, is also to be noted.

An abnormal daily early peal is rung at Smeeth at 8 a.m.; so unusual a custom that it is probably a survival, most likely of the morning Ave peal, changed, perhaps, gradually to a later hour, to suit the convenience of lazy sextons.

The Curfew—a bell absolutely secular in its origin, and not turned to religious purposes until late in the Middle Ages—is very well represented in Kent. Ash by Sandwich, Canterbury Cathedral, Chiddingstone, Cowden, Cranbrook, Dartford, Hawkhurst, Lydd, Marden, Minster in Thanet, Ringwould, and Wye, still preserve the custom. At Folkestone, Ickham, Loose, Milton by Sittingbourne, Staplehurst, and Westerham, it has only been discontinued in more or less recent times, in all cases, I believe, within the memory of some now living. Boys states that it was rung in his day at St. Peter's, Sandwich, and I dare say it is so still.

Of special ancient customs, perhaps the most important was the "Pancake" bell—originally the Shriving bell—rung in the forenoon of Shrove Tuesday, to call the faithful to confession before the solemn season of Lent. So far as my information

goes, there is no present instance of this in Kent, which in this compares unfavourably with the neighbouring little county of Surrey, which has two examples. I am able, however, to mention two places, where tradition records its use in comparatively recent times, viz., Milton by Sittingbourne and Westerham.

The "Gleaning" bell, which is heard in so many country places, is not, to my knowledge, represented in Kent at all. I take it that its principal productions—fruit and hops—do not render it necessary.

A custom, common enough in market towns, is recorded by Boys as existing at Sandwich, and is only mentioned here on account of the singular local name by which it is known, viz., the "Brandgoose" bell, rung at St. Peter's Church to notify the opening of the market.

Another singular local expression may also find fitting notice here. In and around Canterbury the Sanctus bell is called the "Wakerell," or "Wagerell Bell," in the Edwardian Inventories of 1552. I should much like to have the opinion of some competent philologist as to the derivation and meaning of these two words, "Brandgoose" and "Wakerell."

I have now only to deal with the Passing Bell, or rather the Death Knell, for the ancient use of ringing at the actual time of death died out more than a century ago. The normal use in Kent seems to be to ring the "Death Knell" as soon as notice reaches the clerk or sexton, unless the sun has set, in which case it is rung at an early hour the following morning.

It is usual to repeat the knell early on the morning of the day when the funeral takes place ; but I find no instance of

its repetition *after* the funeral, as contemplated and permitted by the canon. The manner of ringing the knell varies, of course, in different places. It is rarely that the age of the departed is tolled, but the use of "tellers" to denote the sex is almost universal, and by far the greater number of churches use the normal number of tellers, viz., three times three strokes for a man and three times two for a woman, with a varying use for children, as will be found hereafter. There are some places, however, where the "tellers" used are different; such are Biddenden, Birchington, Bishopsbourne, Burham, Chiselhurst, Denton, Folkestone, Frinstead, Godmersham, Goudhurst, Halstead, Harrietsham, Hayes, Hoo All Hallows, Littlebourne, Marden, Milstead, Monkton, Newington by Hythe, Northbourne, Oare, East Peckham, Preston by Wingham, Rolvenden, New Romney, Smeeth, Staplehurst, Swanley, St. Stephen Tunbridge, Upnor, Westerham, Wootton, Wye, and Yalding.

The churches with what I have styled above the normal use, as regards "tellers," are 105 in number—too many to give a list of here. They will all be found duly noted in the third part of this book, to which I must refer my readers.

They will also find chronicled there all the particulars that have reached me as to the comparatively modern uses made of the church bells of Kent, principally ringing on church festivals, and royal and other anniversaries. I do not here wish positively to assert that it was not the custom before the Reformation to ring on the great days of the church; but I very much doubt it, except in the larger towns.

The ordinary complement of bells in a village church was

two and a Sanctus bell, and under those circumstances, with the bells only hung with half-wheels, ringing was hardly practicable. Change-ringing, even with the larger rings, which existed here and there, was quite unknown ; and the “ringing of bells” to herald the advent of the archbishop or other local magnate, which we read of in some of the old monkish chroniclers, would sound very strangely, I fancy, in the ears of a “college youth” of the present day.

I cannot close this chapter without expressing the regret which I feel that, take the county altogether, change-ringing is so little practised. Over and over again I have inspected the contents of belfries, containing good serviceable peals of six or eight, only to hear that “they are never rung now”—“We ain’t got no ringers.” And the cause seems to be the want of a trifling local support on the part of the well-to-do in the place. Church rates are practically defunct, and the trifling honorarium which they afforded is no longer forthcoming. The burthen of church expenses falls on the rector, who has so many calls on his generally slender income as to be obliged to cease to respond to the less urgent ones. Land-owners and farmers alike have had hard times of late years, and are disinclined to give, and so ringers fall off and the bells are dumb. I don’t know what the Diocesan Societies are about, but I have heard very little of their doings during the two years that I have spent in bell-work in the county. Let us hope for better things in the future.

ADISHAM.

HOLY INNOCENTS.

4 Bells.

I., 29-in. PETER · DVMOVLIꝝ · D · D · RECTOR · OF · ADISHAM
THOMAS · PALMAR · MADE · MEE · 1670

II., 30½-in. Same as above.

III., 34-in. Same as above.

IV., 36-in. † (Fig. 14) *Domini Magdalene Campana Serit*
Melodie ∇ (Fig. 13).

For mention of No. 4, see page 31.

No peculiar uses. In ringing the death knell, tellers are used at both beginning and end—3 × 3 for a male, 3 × 2 for a female.

One bell tolled for early service. Before Matins and Evensong the bells are chimed—"ringing in" for last five minutes, except on first Sunday in the month, when a peal is rung before Matins.

Peals on Christmas Eve and last night of year.

Best thanks to the Rev. J. H. Carr, Rector.

ALDINGTON.

ST. MARTIN.


6 Bells.


I., 30½-in. I MEAN TO MAKE IT UNDERSTOOD. THAT THO' I'M LITTLE YET
I'M GOOD.


PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1774

II., 32-in. SUCH WONDROUS POWR TO MUSICKS GIVEN IT ELEVATES THE
SOUL TO HEAVEN

PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1774

III., 34½-in. JN^O. ROBVS & GEO' KILVERT  PACK & CHAPMAN OF
LONDON FECIT 1774

IV., 37-in. W^M HOBBS & W^M MARSHALL  PACK & CHAPMAN OF
LONDON FECIT 1774

V., 40-in. EDW^D STEED & ROB^T STEED CHURCH WARDENS 1774  PACK
& CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT

VI., 44-in. YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE YOUR HEALTH & HAPPINESS BE
SOBER MERRY WISE & YOULL THE SAME POSSESS
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1774

T. R. E. "Item iij bells in the steeple."

In 1758 Mr. Bryan Faussett noted here, "five heavy Bells all cast by John Peele A.D. 1705—the Great Bell bears y^e name of William Cade, who was then Rector."

ALKHAM.

ST. ANTONY THE MARTYR.

4 Bells.

- I., 27-in. IH MADE ME 1683 IM IH CW
 II., 29½-in. Same.
 III., 31½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1873
 IV., 35-in. ♣ IOHN * HODSON * MADE * MEE * 1683 *
 IOSEPH * MASH * AND * IOHN * HAYWORD *
 CHVRCH * WS ♣

The former No. 3 was also by Hodson, and bore the same date as the others.

T. R. E. "Item in the stepyll there iij bells."

Hasted states (incorrectly) that there were only three bells in his time.

No peculiar uses. Passing bell tolled one hour after death, unless it occurs at night, and then at eight the following morning.

Tenor bell tolled before funerals.

Bells rung for Sunday services. A "bell tolled before post communion service for a minute."

Peals on Christmas Eve and morning, and on last night of year.

Third bell rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to the Rev. J. C. W. Valpy, Vicar.

ALLINGTON.

ST. LAURENCE.

1 Bell.

- I., 15½-in. IM 1653

Bell doubtless by some local artist—probably of Maidstone.

APPLEDORE.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

6 Bells and Sanctus.

Sanctus, 16½-in. Blank.

- I., 31-in. ○ ♣ * IOHN * HODSON * MAD * MEE * 1685 *
 IO * HR * CHVRCH * WARDNS * FRANCIS *
 DRAYTON * VICAR ○
 II., 32-in. ♣ ○ ○ ♣ IOHN * HODSON * MADE * MEE * 1685
 ♣ IO * HR * CHVRCH * WARDNS * ♣ ○ * ○ ♣
 ○ * ○
 III., 34½-in. Sancte Nicola Ora Pro Nobis ∪ ⊕ ∪

- IV., 37½-in. IOHN * HODSON * MADE * MEE * 1685 ♣ IOHN *
 OWEN * ♣ HENRY * RICHARDSON * CHVRCH *
 WARDNS ♣ ○ ○ ○ ○
- V., 40-in. * IOHN * HODSON * MADE * MEE * 1685 * ○ ○
 ○ ○
 * IOHN * OWEN * HENRY * RICHARSON *
 CHVRCH * W ♣ ○
- VI., 45½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ⑤ 1620

The stamps on No. 3 are Figs. 25, 26, and 27. See p. 44.

The tenor bell is cracked.

ASH BY SANDWICH.

ST. NICHOLAS.

8 Bells.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| I., 31½-in. | } THO ^S MEARS LATE LESTER PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
FECIT 1790 ROB ^T TOMLIN & RICH ^D SUTTON CH.
WARDENS |
| II., 32-in. | |
| III., 34½-in. | |
| IV., 36-in. | |
| V., 40-in. | |
| VI., 42-in. | |
| VII., 46-in. | |
| VIII., 51-in. | |

Mr. Bryan Faussett states that the then ring of five bells bore the following inscriptions :

- I. 1581. (This was probably by Robert Mot.)
 II. Joseph Hatch made me 1615.
 III. and IV. Joseph Hatch made me 1620.
 V. Henry Wilner made me 1641.

The late Mr. J. R. Planché in his interesting account of this parish, under the title "A Corner of Kent," states that here, "Amongst other ancient customs, the curfew still 'tolls the knell of parting day,' and the 'five o'clock bell,' rung every morning, though it now only summons man 'to go forth to his work and to his labour,' formerly at the same hour called priest and people to 'Matins'"—which last statement is incorrect. Before the Reformation "Matins" were not for the laity, unless members of a religious body. The early morning (daily) peal was styled the "Ave Bell" or "Morning Angelus," and it called church-folk to a certain number of repetitions of the angelic

salutation. The quotation from Gray's "Elegy," too, is a pretty bit of poetical fiction. A bell which is rung at 8 p.m. in the winter months *only* (there would be no fire to "cover" in the summer), can hardly be said to herald the departure of a sun which had set some three or four hours before.

ASH BY WROTHAM. SS. PETER AND PAUL. 6 Bells.

- I., 27½-in. THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1795. JAMES LANCE & JAMES WAYNE CHURCH WARDENS
- II., 28-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON
RECAST AT THE CHARGE OF A. J. FLETCHER ESQ^{RE}
OF RANDS HOUSE CHURCHWARDEN 1856
- III., 29-in. JOHN WAYLETT MADE ♣ ME 1717 ♣ ♣
- IV., 32-in. ♣ IOHN ♣ GLADDISH CHVRCH WARDEN 1717
- V., 34-in. RALPH SELBY THE SON OF WILLIAM SELBY ESQ
1717
- VI., 38-in. THE REV^D SAM^L ATTWOOD M: A: RECT: IAMES
LANCE HENRY COLLYER CHURCH WARDENS
RICH^D: PHELPS MADE ME 1727

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple suted.

One sacring-bell—one hand-bell presented to be stolen since the inventory of 3rd Ed. VI.

Death knell rung as soon as notice given (but not after sunset). Tenor for adults, treble for infants; intermediate ages denoted by other bells.

Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female—at commencement.

On day of burial, bell tolled prior to service only.

Sundays, a bell chimed at 8 a.m. ("Matins Bell"). For services, bells (three) generally chimed—occasionally the whole peal is rung.

There is very little ringing here now, for want of funds to pay the ringers a trifle—which is a pity, as the ring is a particularly well-toned one, although a "scratch" lot.

Passing bell tolled "soon after death." Tellers— 3×3 for male or 3×2 for female at *end* of knell only. Bell tolled for half an hour before funerals.

Matins bell rung on Sundays at 8 a.m.

Bells chimed for services, with five minutes' "ringing in."

Bells rung at 6 a.m. on Easter Day and Christmas Day.

Best thanks to the Rev. H. W. O. Polhill, Rector.

AYLESFORD.

ST. PETER.

8 and a Priest's Bell.

Priest's 13-in. Blank.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| I., 26-in. | } CAST BY GILLETT & C ^O CROYDON 1885
HENRY ARTHUR BRASSEY GAVE ME
CYRIL GRANT VICAR
JOHN MONSON SHAW } CHURCHWARDENS
JAMES COLE } |
| II., 27-in. | |
| III., 28-in. | |
| IV., 31-in. | MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME 1652 T MADGIN |
| V., 33-in. | MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME 1652 I BOGHERST |
| VI., 36-in. | ∴ THOMAS GOODMAN IOHN TAYLER IVNIOR
CHVRCHWARDENS 1708 R: PHELPS FECIT ∴
RECAST BY GILLETT & C ^O CROYDON 1885 |
| VII., 39-in. | ROBERT KEMSLEY PHILLIP GRAYE CHVRCH-
WARDENS GOD SAVE KING CHARLES Y ^E 2 ^D 1661
⊕ |
| VIII., 43-in. | ANTHONY BARTLET MADE MEE 1666
CAP ^T WARD LIVEFTENANT LONG TWO OF HIS
MA ^{TIS} HOYMENN ⊕
RECAST BY GILLETT & C ^O CROYDON |

The new ring was dedicated at a special service, on Saturday, 19th December, 1885.

In 1518, Thomas Cossington, of Alisforde, by his will bequeathed "To the buying of a treble bell to the thre belles at Alisforde xx^s."—(*Ex inform. Mr. E. H. W. Dunkin, in "Reliquary" for 1877-8.*)

Passing bell rung directly notice of death is received. Tellers— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman. Age not marked.

Sunday services: Bells rung fifteen minutes, toll ten minutes, Priest's bell five minutes to finish with. Down to about twenty years ago the small Priest's or Sanctus bell was rung at the close of the morning service. I

think this a decided survival of Sanctus bell use, only transferred from the "elevation" to the close of the service. Peals on Easter Day and Christmas Day at 6 a.m. Old year tolled out and new one rung in.

Ringin on Queen's birthday and 5th November.

Best thanks to the Vicar, Rev. Cyril Grant, for above information, and for his kind permission to extract the following from the parish accounts :—

1608-9	Inprimis for a clapp of the bell	...	...	vs.	
	It. for mendinge the stockes of the bells	...		iijs.	vjd.
	It. pd. to J. Dodson for worke about the belles			iijs.	vjd.
	It. pd. to Roberte Gillett for workinge aboute the belles	...	...		xiiijd.
	It. for a rope for the little bell	...	...		iiijd.
1609-10	It. for fower belropes	...	...	xs.	
	Item for making one bel clapper	...	...	xs.	
1610-11	Item for a bauldrick for the bell	...	...	js.	viijd.
	It. for belropes	...	...	xs.	
	It. one daies worke about the bells done by Simon Brice	...	...	js.	
1611-12	Itm. for a bawldricke for y ^e great bell	...		ijs.	
	Itm. to y ^e Ring ^{rs} when my L : Byshop did ride through y ^e pish to visit	...	...		vjd.
	Itm. for trussinge of a bell	...	...		xxd.
	Itm. for mendinge a bell clapp	...	...		viijd.
	Itm. for brads leath ^r trussinge a bell & mendinge a clapp	...	...	iijs.	ijd.
	Itm. for mendinge y ^e great bell bawldricke	...			xijd.
	Itm. for a buckle for y ^e great bell	...	...		iiijd.
1615-16	Itm. for trussinge the bells & brads	...	...		viijd.
	Itm. for a —* for the baldricke of a bell	...			ijd.
	Imp ^s for twoe newe baldrickes for the belles & mendinge of twoe onli	...	...	viijs.	iiijd.
	Itm. for the mendinge of the great Bell clapp ^r			xs.	
	Itm. for yorne worke about the belles	...		ijs.	jd. ob.
	Itm. vnto Edwarde Simonson for worke about the belles	...	...	iijs.	

* Undecipherable.

	Itm. for a bawldricke for the Trebble...	...	iijs.	
	Itm. vnto Richard Gillett the young ^r for yorne worke about the belles	... ..	xij <i>d</i> .	
	Itm. vnto Richarde Gillett the young ^r for mendinge the stocke of the St ^s Bell	... ..	v <i>d</i> .	
	Itm. for mendinge a bell clapp ^r	... ..	v <i>d</i> .	
1616-17	Itm. for mendinge the Belles and the bell wheeles	... ..	xs.	
	Itm. for fower halfe inch boordes to mende the bell wheeles	... ..	ij <i>s</i> .	
	Itm. for fower bell Ropes	... ..	viij <i>s</i> .	x <i>d</i> .
	Itm. for mendinge a bell clappe ^r and for speeckes and nailes for y ^e bell frame	... ..	ij <i>s</i> .	vij <i>d</i> .
	Itm. for three Newe Baldrickes	... ..	vj <i>s</i> .	
	Itm. to John Bur for mendinge y ^e baldrickes of the belles	... ..		xiiij <i>d</i> .
	Itm. unto Gillett for mendinge of a bell clapper	... ..	iiij <i>s</i> .	
	Itm. payde unto Tootinge for twoe hoopes for the bell wheeles	... ..		ij <i>d</i> .
1617-18	Itm. vnto John Bur for the mendinge of twoe baldrickes	... ..	ij <i>s</i> .	
	Itm. for an yrone Pin for y ^e baldricke	... ..		ij <i>d</i> .
	Itm vnto Edwarde Simonson for worke donne about the belles	... ..		xvij <i>d</i> .
1618-19	Itm. vnto John Bur for the mendinge of twoe baldrickes	... ..		xvj <i>d</i> .
	Itm. for the mendinge of twoe clappers and the makinge of a newe baldrick	... ..	vs.	v <i>d</i> .
	Itm. for the mendinge of y ^e great bels baldricke	... ..		vij <i>d</i> .
	Itm. for fower newe bellropes...	... ..	viij <i>s</i> .	x <i>d</i> .
	Itm. for the mendinge of twoe baldricks	... ..		xvij <i>d</i> .
	Itm. for Iron worke about the belles	... ..	iiij <i>s</i> .	
	Itm. for worke about the belles	... ..	iiij <i>s</i> .	
1619-20	Received for the ould bell clapper	... ..	iiij <i>s</i> .	v <i>d</i> .
	Itm. (paid) for a baldricke	... ..	iiij <i>s</i> .	
			T	

	Itm. to Rob ^t Brise for mendinge of a bell wheele	vjd.
	Itm. for a new clapper for the great bell wainge 42 pound at v ^d the pounce	xvijs. vjd.
	Itm. for Rob ^t Newportes charge for and labor goinge for lime and tyles and to gob Sayers and to carrie & fetch the great bell clapper	vs.
	Itm. to John Wayman for mendinge of a bell wheele	vjd.
	Itm. for mendinge of 3 baldrickes	xviijd.
	Itm. one daye for a carpenter to mend the frame of the belles	xvjd.
	Itm. to the Ringers on the Kinges coronation day	xijd.
	Itm. for mendinge of twoe baldrickes... ..	xijd.
	Similar entries in following years.	
1620-21	Itm. for 4 bell ropes	xijs. vjd.
1621-22	Received for 9 pounde of mettell lost of the ould bell at x ^d the pound	vijjs. vjd.
	Payments :	
	Itm. for the charges of the new bell	} vijl. xs.
	Itm. for the new bell castinge of her the takinge of her downe the carriage hanginge of her up and all other charges concerninge the bell	
	Itm. for the makinge of the writings concerninge the bell payde vnto M ^r Walter ffisher for them	
	Item for takinge downe the thirde Bell	
1629-30	Item for casting of the 3 ^d Bell w th the ouer Mettall	viijl.
	Item for carrying y ^e Bell & fetching it againe	xs.
	Item for hanging her & mending the second	xs.
	Item for helpe to weigh the Bell twice	ijjs.
	Item for two bondes for the casting of y ^e Bell	js.

	Item for a Rope to take downe the Bell ...	js.	vjd.
	Item for helpe aboute y ^e 2 ^d Bell to putt in y ^e Guggin	js.	
1632-33	Inp. ffor castinge the third bell	5 <i>li.</i> 6 <i>s.</i>	8 <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for 52 ^h of newe mettall at xij ^d the pounce	2 <i>li.</i> 12 <i>s.</i>	od.
	Itm. for helpe to take downe and hang vp the said bell pd	10 <i>s.</i>	od.
	Itm. more to Robte Goffe		6 <i>d.</i>
	Itm. more to John Wayman	1 <i>s.</i>	od.
	Itm. for carrynge and fetchinge home the bell	13 <i>s.</i>	4 <i>d.</i>
1633-34	Itm. to Robt Gillett for taking out the Brasses of the second Bell when they were to be cast and laying them in againe when they were new cast	js.	vjd.
	Itm. to the Clarke for helping him		vjd.
	Itm. to Christopher Cockerell for castinge the saide Brasses together w ^h the new Mettall w ^h was added to them	xvijs.	vjd.
1635-36	It. for fower new belropes weighing 23 <i>li.</i> ...	xjs.	vjd.
1640-41	ffor help to take downe the greate bell and for fetchng and caryng the Takles vsed about taking downe the saide bell	vij <i>s.</i>	
	ffor writing a bond for the Belfounders warrant- ing the greate belle sufficientie and for (&c.)	js.	vjd.
	Spent upon the belfounder when he came over	iijs.	
	ffor casting the greate bell and for the new mettall w ^h was put in paide to Hatch ...	xij <i>li.</i> viij <i>s.</i>	
	ffor caryng the said bell to casting and fetch- ing the saide bell home againe	xiiij <i>s.</i>	
	To John Best towards his worke and tymber to hang the bells paid	vij <i>li.</i> xiiij <i>s.</i>	vjd.
	Since paid to Crust for his iourney coming over to see the frame and spent upon him for his advice	vij <i>s.</i>	
	ffor oyle ffor the bells when theye were new hanged		vij <i>d.</i>

1641-42	It. to George Daye for the Belleframe and hanging the bells pay ^d in pte	xix <i>li</i> .	xs.
	To Willm Hatch for exchanging the old brasses for the bells	j <i>li</i> .	js.
	ffor taking downe the bells taking downe the old frame and laying the same in the church	j <i>li</i> .	
	ffor carying the old brasses & bringing home the new payd to Richard Coates	ij <i>s</i> .	vj <i>d</i> .
	ffor a bond of covenante concerning George Daye's making y ^e frame & hanging the bell	j <i>s</i> .	
1644-47	ffor a Rope to the little Bell (<i>i.e.</i> , the Sanctus) To Humphrey Bowne of Maidstone for a new sett of Bell-Ropes	j <i>s</i> .	
		xvj <i>s</i> .	vii <i>j</i> <i>d</i> .
1647-48	It. for a sett of new Bell Roapes	xv <i>s</i> .	
1650-51	It. for a new sett of Bell Roapes	xvj <i>s</i> .	
<hr/>			
1660-61	Inprimis to the Ringers when the King was proclaymed	5 <i>s</i> .	0 <i>d</i> .
1661-62	It. to y ^e Ringers when the Kings birth daie &c. was observed		6 <i>d</i> .
	To the Ringers upon the v ^t of November given... ..	3 <i>s</i> .	0 <i>d</i> .
	It. for writing the bargaine betweene Anthony Bartlett and y ^e Church Wardens concerning casting the fowerth Bell pd		6 <i>d</i> .
	It. for expences when the Bell founder was here	2 <i>s</i> .	6 <i>d</i> .
	It. for help and expences when the Bell was taken downe pd	4 <i>s</i> .	
	It. more to Willm Long's folk for help when y ^e Bell was brought home	1 <i>s</i> .	
	It. to John Kidwell for hanging the new bell and other work at that tyme about the Bells pd	10 <i>s</i> .	

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It. for candles and beere which the Ringers had when the Bells were trymed vpon New yeares eue	1s.	2d.
It. to Robert Gillett for iron worke about the Bells	5s.	10d.
It. to John Birchall for going to Kidwell and for helping him twoe daies about the bells	2s.	6d.
It. more spent in beare on New yeares daie vpon John Kidwell and the Ringers and some other which had helped about the Bell	1s.	
It. paide for beare when the bell was drawn vp in y ^e steeple	1s.	
It. paid to the Bell fownder for casting the Bell	7 <i>li.</i>	0s. 0d.
It. for the overweight p ^d to y ^e Bell fownder ...	10s.	
It. for caryage of the Bell to and from the Bell founders and for Wharfage at London paide	8s.	
It. for carying the Bell from the church to the waterside	1s.	
It. more for fetching the Bell from Millhale to the Church againe p ^d	1s.	
It. paide more to Willm Long for soe much he saide he spent at London staying for the Bell and vpon the Bellfounders	3s.	
1665-66 ffor all charges about taking downe y ^e great Bell paide	6s.	6d.
expended ye 12 th & 13 th of ffebruarie about bargaining w th James Bartlett when he took the great Bell to cast	3s.	
ffor making a wryting concerning the bargain (or agreement) paide	1s.	
To James Bartlett in pt when he took the saide Bell to cast paide in hand	1 <i>li.</i>	0s. 0d.
More to John Tayler in satisfaccon of soe much his mony which Thomas Ward Disbursed to y ^e Bell fownder for casting y ^e Bell	8 <i>li.</i>	

	More for 20 pownd of mettall put in (more then the old Bell weighed) at 10 ^d p pownd paide (Other payments for carriage, wharfage, beer, etc., etc.)	16s.	8d.
1666-67	A set of bell ropes, weighing 24 pounds, costs 14s. To the Bell founder for 100 weight of mettall adding soe much weight to the Bell more then shee weighed before	5 <i>li</i> .	0s. 0d.
1682-83	Three of the five bells apparently rehung— payments entered amounting to £12 14s. 6 <i>d</i> ., including "twopence a day for drink for y ^e bell hanger 3s." Other payments for general repairs to bells, wheels, etc., total up another £4 or £5.		
1688-89	Paid for hanging of two Bells with new wheells And new stocks	6 <i>li</i> .	
	Paid for 85 pound of new iron work about y ^e two Bells att 4 ^d p pound	1 <i>li</i> .	8s. 4d.
	Paid for working the old iron for y ^e 2 bells ...		6s.
1693-94	"A sett of Bell Roops" cost £1. New bell ropes almost annually until 1713. The old ones were the churchwardens' per- quisites, being very useful for plough traces, etc., when not too much worn.		
1708-9	Gave ye Ringars upon y ^e Duke of Marlborow's Victory		4s.
	Gave ye Ringars upon Lyle being taken ...		4s.
	Gave ye Ringars upon Gunpowder treason ...		5s.
	Paid Tho Ward, for waying of y ^e 3 bell ...		2s.
	Paid for warfing y ^e bell		10 <i>d</i> .
	ffor help to gett her out & Into y ^e Church & to gett her up in y ^e steepell		3s.
	Spent upon y ^e Ringars & y ^e bell hangar ...		3s.
March 29, 1709.	Paid Mr Broomfield* for new casting of y ^e 3 th Bell Thirteen pounds as apears by his bill		13 <i>li</i> .

* Broomfield was a local bell-hanger who evidently acted as agent for Robert Phelps. See under head of Stowting for a contract made for recasting, etc., with one of these local agents.

Paid him for eight pound of new Bell Mettell	8s.	
Paid him for takeing down y ^e other 4 Bells and fastning the Brasses & gudjens and hanging them up again Three pounds	3 <i>li</i> .	
Paid him for new Roles and new Salleys* ...	15s.	
For ordering y ^e Clapers & mending ye wheels	10s.	
Paid Dauid Woodde for Carrying & bringing y ^e bell from Milhall	5s.	
Paid Hodges for Beere y ^e Bell Hangar had willst he was heare	6s.	
for Oyle for ye Bells	2s.	6 <i>d</i> .
Paid Will: Pett for Iron Worke Done about y ^e bells as apears by his bill	1 <i>li</i> .	14s.
1711-12 A new sett of bell ropes (as usual), £1, and also		
for a rope for y ^e Saints bell	2s.	6 <i>d</i> .

BADLESMERE.

ST. LEONARD.

1, formerly 3 Bells.


I., 34-in. ioseph hatch made me 1635

This bell was formerly one of the ring at Reculver Church, which was dismantled early in the present century. How it came here I do not know ; there was only one bell in Hasted's time, but he notes that two others had been "taken away and sold many years ago towards the repair of the Church." I suppose the survivor got cracked, and the present bell was bought to replace it.

BAPCHILD.

ST. LAURENCE.

1, formerly 3 Bells.

I., 30-in. ○ * ○ iħc □ iħc ▽ ▽  ○ ○

A very curious specimen of the handywork of William Oldfield, of Canterbury, probably cast about 1550. For an account of it and engravings of the various stamps see p. 58.

The other two bells were sold by the churchwardens to purchase the chandelier. In a continuation of Mr. Bryan Faussett's notes (by another

* The worsted work on the ropes to save chafing and give a better grip.

hand) it is stated that the other two "were piously disposed off by the Parishioners to defray the expence of some Repairs."

For service : Bell pulled up and rung, and then lowered and chimed.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice of death is received ; unless at night, when it is rung at 8 a.m. next morning. Bell tolled for ten minutes, and then tellers— 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female. The tellers are also given before the funeral (a very unusual "use"). During the cholera epidemic it was found necessary to stop ringing the passing bell, the announcement of a fresh victim in this way apparently proving injurious to the living, scaring them, in fact, into the disease.

No other peculiar uses, except in relation to "bell coom," or the dirty grease from the gudgeons, which is much sought after as an infallible cure for ringworm.

Best thanks to the Rev. James Horan, Vicar.

BARFREESTON.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I., 15-in. Blank.

In 1758, Mr. Faussett notes here "two small bells without inscription."

BARHAM.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.

4 Bells.

I., 30½-in. IOHN ♦ WILZAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1633

II., 32½-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1834

III., 34-in. BASIL O LUNN O CW O SK O FECIT O ME O
1730 O O O O

IV., 37-in. SAMUELL KNIGHT MADE ME 1730

In 1758, the 2nd bell was similarly inscribed to the treble. Mr. Faussett, however, states the date (on both) to be 1623.

BARMING.

ST. MARGARET.

5 Bells.

I., 28-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1883
MARGARITAM MARGARETA NUNTIO

II., 30-in. Sancte Petre Ora Pro ∇ (Fig. 25) ⊕ (Fig. 26) ∇
(Fig. 27) Nobis

III., 32-in. FILI DEI TE ROGAMUS AUDI NOS

IV., 35-in. SANCTA TRINITAS MISERERE NOBIS

V., 38-in. LAUS DOMINI IN ECCLESIA SANCTORUM

} MEARS &
as on No. 1.

No. 2 bell by Henry Jordan (see p. 43).

Only three bells before 1883, apparently the survivors (1, 2, and 4) of a peal of four, as the frame is made for the latter number.

The two recast bells (1 and 4) were both by Joseph Hatch, and dated respectively 1616 and 1629. The cost of the recasting and of the two new bells was borne by a local benefactor, Mr. Ellis. The dedication of the new ring is thus noticed in "Barning Bells and Home Words" for March, 1884:

"The service of dedication of the bells was held on the 11th of February, and was attended by a large congregation. The prayers were read by the Rev. J. H. Nowers, and after the second lesson, the clergy—among whom were the Rev. Canon Elwyn, the Rev. D. H. Whitehead, and the Rev. J. Alison—proceeded to the belfry, headed by the choir singing a beautiful and appropriate processional hymn, whose opening lines run thus:

In Sinai's dreary waste
The trumpet's silver call
Summoned of old the Jewish host
To feast and festival.

A special form of dedicatory prayer was here read by the Rev. J. H. Nowers, after which the ringers sounded a short peal, and a final hymn was sung, beginning:

Now at length our bells are mounted,
To their holy place on high,
Ever to fulfil their mission,
Midway 'twixt the earth and sky.

The Rev. Canon Elwyn then preached eloquently and impressively, pointing out how the various sounds of church bells affected Christians, and alluding to the inscription upon these bells, and to the generosity of the donor of them."

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. The usual tellers—3 × 3 for male and 3 × 2 for female—are used, and the age is tolled.

Funerals: Bell tolled or chimed about 8 a.m., and tolled at intervals during the funeral.

No regular custom as yet for Sunday services, the Rector wisely determining to get his ringers well-organized and trained first.

Ringin in the early morning on the four great festivals—Easter, Christmas, Ascension Day, and Whitsun Day.

Special local use on last night of year: Bells rung until 11.45, then prayer, then date of year struck on tenor (omitting the centuries). At midnight, twelve struck on treble, and then a peal.

Ringing also on loyal anniversaries.

Best thanks to the Rev. T. W. Carr, Rector, who has framed an excellent set of belfry rules.

BEARSTED.

HOLY CROSS.

6 Bells.

- I., 28-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1877
 II., 30½-in. ~~Wox Augustine Sonet In Aure Dei~~ ∪ ⊕ ∪
 III., 32-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1877
 IV., 34-in. ~~Robertus + mol + me + fecit~~ + I B T P 1590 Ⓢ
 V., 37-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME Ⓢ 1606
 VI., 40-in. THO^s LESTER OF LONDON MADE ME WILLIAM
 LOT CH: WARDEN 1742

The former treble was by Richard Phelps, dated 1729, and recording the names of its donors "W^m Lott Ch: W. Tho. Allman, W^m Eagles, W^m Sutton & divers other subscribers."

The former No. 3 was by Thomas Hatch, and dated 1599.

The stamps on No. 2 are Figs. 27, 26, and 25.

BECKENHAM.

ST. GEORGE.

6 Bells.

- I., 29-in. THE REV^d W^m ROSE RECTOR ROB^t HOGGART & THO^s
 RANDELL CHURCH WARDENS GEORGE GROTE & ROB^t
 TANNER OVERSEERS THO^s MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1796
 II., 31-in. WILLIAM · LAMBART MADE · ME R L 1640
 III., 32½-in. THOMAS BARTLET MADE ME 1624
 IV., 36½-in. THOMAS BARTLET MADE THIS BELL 1629 Ⓢ
 V., 40½-in. Same. 1625 Ⓢ
 VI., 45-in. Same. 1629 Ⓢ

T. R. E. Item iiij bells of bellmetell suted in the steeple whereof on was broken.

Item ij litle sacryng bells of brasse.

Mem.: "one hand bell and one Sacrament bell of brasse" had been sold.

In 1454, Ralph Langle of Beckenham by his will bequeathed "ordinacioni nove campane ibidem iijs iiij^d."—(*Ex inform. Mr. E. H. W. Dunkin in "Reliquary" for 1877-8.*)

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CHRISTCHURCH. 1 Bell.

Modern church (1876) with presumably one modern bell.

HOLY TRINITY. 1 Bell.

Modern church (1878) with presumably one modern bell.

ST. BARNABAS. 1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. JAMES. 1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS. 1 Bell.

Presumably only one modern bell.

ST. PAUL. 1 Bell.

Modern church (1873), and has probably one bell of that date.

BEKESBOURNE. ST. PETER. 4 Bells.

I., 30-in. }
 II., 32-in. } MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1884
 III., 34-in. }
 IV., 37-in. }

These supersede a brace of inscriptionless bells.

Passing bell rung as soon as possible after death. Tellers—first 3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman, 3 × 1 for child, then pause and toll.

Funerals : Bell tolled at 8 a.m., and at time of interment.

Bells chimed for divine service.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. H. J. Wardell.

BELVEDERE. ALL SAINTS. 1 Bell.

I., 21-in. W S 1757

See page 105.

BENENDEN.

ST. GEORGE.

8 Bells.

- I., 30-in. THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1802
 II., 31-in. Same.
 III., 33-in. JOHN TAYLOR & C^O LOUGHBOROUGH 1882
 IV., 35-in. THE REV^D JOSEPH DUNN VICER SAM^L HUNT & ALEX^R
 WHELLER CH WARDENS LESTER AND PACK OF LONDON
 FECIT 1764
 V., 38-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1819
 VI., 40-in. Nunquam Errabo In^O SAUNDERS L:L:B: VIC: GEO:
 GIBBON RIC: GRANT EDM: GIBBON SAM: HUNT
 MANAGERS R. P. FECIT 1719
 VII., 44-in. DEUS BENEDICAT FUNDATORIBUS NOSTRIS IS
 GG EG RG SH PHILL: GIBBON ARMIGER
 DINISSIMUS BENEFACITOR
 VIII., 49-in. NEWCAST 1753 THE REV^D M^R IOHN WILLIAMS
 VICAR IOHN CARLY SEN^R & THOMAS RICHARD-
 SON CH: WARDENS THOMAS LESTER & THO^S
 PACK OF LONDON FECIT

BETHERSDEN.

ST. MARGARET.

6 Bells and Sanctus.

Sanctus, 16-in. W H 1662

- I, 30-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1759
 II., 33-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1634 }
 W H }
 III., 35-in. W^M MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1787
 IV., 38½-in. + IO : MYLTIS : ANNIS : RE-
 SONE : CAMPANA : IO-
 HANNIS
 V., 42-in. WILLIAM HATCH MADE ME WP FW CW ☉ 1662
 VI., 45-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT TW CW TM CW
 ☉ 1630

See p. 15 for mention of the 4th bell.

T. R. E. Item v great bells in the steeple.

Item a Sanctus bell.

Bells chimed on Sunday for services.

Thanks to Vicar, Rev. Robt. Palmer.

The churchwardens' accounts here are singularly perfect from the year 1514 to the present time—there is, I think, only one year wanting. I am very much indebted to their present custodian (Mr. James Adams) for access to them, and beg to thank him most heartily for his kind hospitality on the occasion of my visit to make the following extracts :—

1514-15	It. payed for a newe Belroppe	ix <i>d.</i>
	It. payed for mendyng of the bawdrykks for the year	ii <i>j.d.</i>
	(This entry occurs annually for many years —it was evidently the sexton's yearly allowance.)	
1515-16	It. paid for halfe a skyn of led', for bawdrykks	x <i>d.</i>
	It. paid for mendyng of — & the belwelys	ij <i>d.</i>
	It. paid for makyng of bawderykks	ij <i>d.</i>
	It. paid to Elys of plukle to se the bells yf they had nede of repacions	v <i>j.d.</i>
1516-17	It. paid for a nyw belrop	ix <i>d.</i>
1517-18	It. paid for mendyll of a bell wele	vij <i>d.</i>
1518-19	It. paid for a planke for a bele wyle	vij <i>d.</i>
	It. payd for mendyng of too bele whelys ...	iijs.
1519-20	It. paid for too nyw belropys	xv <i>j.d.</i>
1520-21	It. payed for a newe belrope	vij <i>d. ob.</i>
1521-22	Itm. payd to John Hasell for yerne worke to the grete bell and the funt	xvii <i>j.d.</i>
	Itm. payd to Edward Haulnast for mendyng of all the belles	xvii <i>j.d.</i>
	Itm. payd for a new bel Rouppe	x <i>j.d.</i>
	Itm. payd for a galan of oyel	xv <i>j.d.</i>
	Itm. payd for mendyng of the hand belles ...	iiij <i>d.</i>
1522-23	Itm. payd for cord for the sancts bel... ..	ob.
	Itm. payd to John Hascel of tent'dyn for men- dyng of ij bell clappers	iijs.
	Itm. payd to Thomas blake for beryng foreth of the forsayd cleppers and breyngyng a geyn	iiij <i>d.</i>

	Itm. payd for ij new bell Rouppes	ij <i>s.</i>
1523-24	Itm. payd for mendyng of the stokys of the bellesse	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for a new bel roop	xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for a new bauwedreke	vd.
	Itm. payd for mendyng of bauwed Rekys ...	iiij <i>d.</i>
1525	Ite. paid for having doune of the sanctus bel & for mendyng of hym	ij <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for ij nyw belropys	xx <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid to Robert Sylke for a nyw bawedryk	vj <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for half a horshede	xd.
1526	Ite. paid for ij nywe bellropys... ..	xx <i>d.</i>
1528	Ite. paid to Edmunde Holnest for mendynge of the bells	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for a nyw bawdryk	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid to John mapyllysden for stokking of the sanctus bell	xvj <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for mendynge of a bras for a bell ...	ij <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for a pcell of led' to a mende baw- drykks	viiij <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for making of a bawdryk	ij <i>d.</i>
1529	Ite. paid for ij nyw belropys	xxj <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for mendyng of a vyndow in the stepyl	vd.
1530	ffirst paid for mendynge of bawdriks	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for ij new belropys	xviiij <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for too nyw bawdrykks	viiij <i>d.</i>
1531	Ite. paid for iiij nyw belropys	xxj <i>d.</i>
1532	Ite. paid for halfe a horsse hede of lether ...	xd.
1533	Ite. payd for mendyng of the bells weyls ...	viiij <i>d.</i>
	Ite. payd for ij nyw belropys	xvj <i>d. ob.</i>
	Ite. payd for mendyng of one of the canstyks & a handbell... ..	xvj <i>d.</i>
1534	Ite. paid for a nyw belrop	ix <i>d.</i>
1535	Ite. paid for a nyw belroppe	xj <i>d.</i>
1536	Ite. paid for too nywe belropys	xix <i>d.</i>
	Ite. payd for a nyw bawdryk	ij <i>d.</i>

	Ite. paid for too moo other beiropys	ijs.
1537	Ite. payd for a nywe belrope	ix <i>d. ob.</i>
1538	ffirst paid for ij nywe belropys... ..	xvii <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for a nothir nyw belrop	ix <i>d.</i>
	Ite. paid for makyng of a box for one of the bells	iiij <i>d.</i>
1539	Ite. paid for mendyn of too clapyys of the bells	ixs.
	Ite. paid for mendyng of a handbell	vd.
1540	Itm. payde for mendyng of the bells wylse ...	vij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for myndyng of a claper of a belle...	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for iij bellropese	ijs. viii <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for haufe a horse hyde	xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for a newe bawdryke to Robert Sylke... ..	ij <i>d.</i>
1541	Itm. payde for myndynge of a clapper of a belle	iiijs. viii <i>d.</i>
1542	Itm. payde for bawdrykes	ij <i>d.</i>
1542	Itm. payde for myndynge of a clapper of a belle	xvj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for a newe baudryke	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for iij newe bellropes	iijs. iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for myndynge of the sanse belle ...	ob.
1543	Itm. payde to Waterman for myndynge of the bele	iiij <i>d.</i>
	and for mete and drynke at the same tyme ...	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for myndynge of the belle wheylls	jd.
	Itm. payde for hanggyng vpe of the rope of the sanse belle	jd.
	Itm. payde for bawdrykes to the syxtyn ...	iijd.
1544	Itm. payde for a baderyke	v <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for ij new belle ropes	xxj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for myndynge of the greate belle	vd.
	Itm. payde for myndynge of the bawdrikes ...	iijd.
1545	Itm. payde for ij nywe belleropes	ijs. v <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payde for myndynge of the grete bell ...	vd.
	Itm. payde for a lyne for the smalle belle ...	jd. ob.
	Itm. payde to the syxtyn for bawdrykes ...	iijd.

1546	Itm. payde to Water Wythe for myndyng of y ^e secunde bell	iijd.
	Itm. payde for a nywe bawdryke	vjd.
	Itm. payde for wyte ledder	xvjd.
	Itm. payde for makynge of a bawdryke	ijd.
	Itm. payde for bawdrykes to the syxtyn	iijd.
1547-48	Itm. payde for belles ropes	vs.
1550	It. payd ffor a rope to y ^e sants belle	iiijd.
	It. payd to Symō Knyght ffor mendyng off y ^e belle	vjd.
1551	Itm. p ^d to Ralfe Pellon for ——— & for a pynne for the bawdricke of the gret bell	iijd.
	Itm. p ^d to Thomas Mawdesle for two bawde- rickes one for the gret bell and the other for the thred bell	ijs. viijd.
	Itm. p ^d to Ralfe Pellon for turninge of the thred bell claper	xvjd.
	Itm. p ^d for a quart of oyle for the Bells	vd.
1554	It. p ^d for whyte ledder & mendyn of the thyrd bell wheyll	ixd.
	It. payd for on pyntt of oyle for the bells	iijd. ob.
	It. p ^d to Rayffe pellant for Ieron worke for the fourth bell	viijd.
	It. for my costs at Canterburie when I bar- gaynyd for y ^e bell	viijd.
	It. p ^d to the bellfounder to bynd the bargayne	iiijd.
	It. in expencys at the fechyng of y ^e same bell	xvjd.
	It. p ^d to lengle for a bell whyle and hys ex- pensys	vijs. ijd.
	It. p ^d to Rayffe pellant for Ieron worke for bells	xixd.
	It. p ^d to myselffe for tymbre & pvision to haue vp the greatt bell	vs.
1555	Itm. p ^d to William Turner for mendyng the bell whyle	vd.
	Itm. p ^d to John Bale for makynge of the bell whyle	vjs. viijd.

	Itm. p ^d for clepis about the bell whylls ...		iijs.
	Itm. p ^d for vj tupps for the buckell for the baldryks of the Bells		vjd.
	Itm. p ^d for makynge of the Bells and mendynge of the clappers for the Bells		vij <i>d</i> .
1556	Itm. p ^d to John Sale for makynge of a bell whyle and mendynge of the other whiles ...	vij <i>s</i> .	
1557	Itm. p ^d for my expence at Canterbure when I made Bargayne w ^t the bellfounder ...		ix <i>d</i> .
	Itm. p ^d for my expence there when the Inden- tures where settled		ix <i>d</i> .
	Itm. p ^d to John Wedtherden for his labour and expence to Cantourbure the same tyme		xv <i>d</i> .
	Itm. p ^d for hauynge downe of the bell out of the Steeple		vij <i>d</i> .
	Itm. p ^d expence when the bell was caried to Cantourbury	iijs.	v <i>d</i> .
	Itm. payd to John Glou' for carynge of the same bell to Cantourbury	xs.	
	Itm. for my owne labour when the bell was hanged vppe		v <i>d</i> .
	Itm. p ^d to John Waterman for hauynge uppe of the same bell	iiij <i>s</i> .	
	Itm. p ^d to John Wedtherden for writtyng of the Indenture and obligacons betwene the Bel- founder and the Church Wardens		vii <i>d</i> .
	Itm. p ^d for paper		iiij <i>d</i> .
	Itm. p ^d to William Oldefelde for Shootynge of the bell	xxxiijs.	iiij <i>d</i> .
	Itm. p ^d for mendynge of one of the bell wheles		j <i>d</i> .
	Itm. p ^d to Raffe Pelland for mendynge the thred bell claper		v <i>d</i> .
1558	Itm. payd to Nycolas Harrys for myndyng of the bele clapper	vs.	
	Itm. payd to maudesle for wyt ledder ...		ij <i>d</i> .
1559	Itm. payd to thomas lophome for beryng of the clapper of the grete belle		iiij <i>d</i> .

	Itm. payd for a bele Rope	xxd.
1560	Itm. for a lyne for the lytylle belle	viijd.
1561	Itm. layd out for the bele clapper	ijjs. iiijd.
	Itm. payd for fetting of the seyd clapper	vd.
	Itm. payd for hangyng of the belle	ijjs. jd.
	Itm. payd for yerne worke	vjd.
	Itm. payd to the belfounder	vli.
	Itm. payd to Rychard whatle (?) for hangynge of the belle	viijd.
1562	Itm. payde for ij bele Roppes	ijjs. vjd.
	Itm. for a bele Roppe	xxd.
1563	It. for mendyng of the beles	vjs. vjd.
	It. payd for a bel Rop	ijjs.
1564	It. layd out for mendyng y ^e bel claper	vs. iiijd.
	It. for a Rop for y ^e for bel	xvd.
	It. payd to Raff pelan for mendyng iij clapers	iijs.
1565	It. payd to Rychard Davy for mendyng y ^e bel whell	iiijd.
1566	Item payd y ^e sexton to Ring y ^e bel	ijd.
	Item payd for whyt lether & for oyell	vjd.
	Item layd out for a bawdrack	iiijd.
	Item for a bell rop	xviijd.
	Item payd to gillam for turnyng of a claper	iiijd.
	Item for a pvnche to pvnche y ^e bawderickes	ijd.
	Item for a bawderick	iiijd.
1567	Itm. for mendyng of a bell claper	ijjs. vjd.
	Itm. payd for makyng of bellwhyll and for mendyng of a nother bel wheyll	xjs. iiijd.
	Itm. layd for mendyng of the batheryk & lether	vjd.
1568	Itm. payd to Gyllam for yern worke about y ^e beles	vjs. iiijd.
	Itm. payd to Thomas Lopham & Jarman turner for makynge y ^e bell stokes	xjs.
	Itm. for tow bell stokes	vs.
	Itm. for ij bell ropes	iijs. viijd.
	Itm. for lether for y ^e bell ropes	xxd.

	Itm. for mendynge iij badrekes	...	...	vjd.
	Itm. for ij newe badrekes	...	...	viijd.
	Itm. for mendynge tow badrekes	...	...	iiijd.
1569	Itm. for a bell Rop	...	...	xxijd.
	Itm. payd to gyllam for mendynge the bell claper	...	...	vjd.
	Itm. payd for a new badrec	...	...	iiijd.
1571	Itm. payd for lether for the bell ropes	...	...	ijjd.
	Itm. for grece for the beles	...	...	ij.
1572	Itm. payd to gyllam for mendynge the sheres of the beles	...	...	iiijd.
	Itm. payd for mendynge of the bell wheles	...	...	vjd.
	Itm. payd for horse lether to make badreckes	...	...	viijd.
	Itm. payd for makynge of a badrecke	...	...	iiijd.
	Itm. payd to the sayd george (larken) for towe dayes work about the beles	...	...	ijs.
	Itm. payd to Jarman Turner for ij dayes about the same worke	...	...	ijs.
	Itm. payd to Raff Pelland mendynge the yerne worke about the beles	...	...	ijs. vjd.
	Itm. payd to hym for persynge the skyrgogen of the fowerthe bell	...	...	viijd.
	Itm. payd for makynge a badreck for the great bell	...	...	iiijd.
1573	Itm. payd for mendynge the bell frame	...	...	xviijd.
	Itm. payd for a bell rope	...	...	xviijd.
1578	Itm. payd to a carpenter to stoke & mendynge the bellframe	...	...	viijs. vd.
1579	Itm. payd for toe newe bell Ropes	...	...	iijs. ij.
	Itm. payd for mendynge the gujen of the fowerth bell	...	...	viijd.
	Itm. for a corde for the letle bell	...	...	j.
	Itm. payd unto gyllam for mendynge the gugen of the great bell & for a yrone weop	...	...	xd.
	Itm. payd for mendynge the claper of the thurde bell	...	...	iijs.

1582	Itm. for nayles for the letle bell house	...	j <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for mendynge the letle belhouse	...	iiij <i>d.</i>
1583	Itm. payd for halfe a hors hyde to make badreckes	... ..	xiiij <i>d.</i>
	ij newe bell ropes	... ..	iijs. ij <i>d.</i>
1587	tallow for the badreke lether	... ..	j <i>d. ob.</i>
	gillam for a Keye for one of the belles	...	ob.
1588	A "sese" made by general consent for recasting the great bell, with a list of the contributors, commencing "ffyrst m ^r wyllyam lovelace esquire xxs.," the total being x <i>l</i> . viijs.		
	The expences and charges that the sayd churchwardens have bene at aboute the newe makynge of the sayd bell and what money the bell founder receaved for his worke accordinge unto his bargayne made w th the parisheners and also for mettall that was lakyng to make her of suffyciente substance and tunable accordynge to his bargayne.		
	ffyrst, wee spent when wee made our bargayn w th hym	... ..	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. wee spent when the bell was taken down		ix <i>d.</i>
	Itm. wee payd unto Wyllyam Brooke to make a weyth to wey her	... ..	xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. wee spent when the bell was carrye forth	iijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. wee spent when wee wente to se the bell shoott	... ..	xd.
	Itm. wee spent when the bell was shoott	ijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. wee spent more when wee went for the bell	... ..	ijs. iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for a newe staple for the bell	...	xvj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for buckles and brades for the bell		xd.
	Itm. we spent when the bell hanged up	...	xd.
	Itm. payd to Wyllyam brooke for his help then	... ..	xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd to george larken for his help then		xvj <i>d.</i>

	Itm. layd out then for horslether to make badreckes	ijs.	vjd.
	Itm. we weare charged further for that wee cold not receave the money of those that wear sessed to paye the bell founder accordynge to bargayn he did procure a wrytt agaynst us the w ^{ch} charges weare	iijs.	
	Itm. wee payd the baylly for a bande & copie of the wrytt		vij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. wee payd more to the baylly after we ded agre w th the bell founder for the wryttes ...	ijs.	vij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. wee spent when we wente to agre w th hym		vij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. wee spent more when we went to paye hym		xij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. wee payd for drawynge the action ...		xiiij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. payd for sertayne plankes to make provysyon to hange up the bell	ijs.	
	Itm. payd the bell founder for shuttynge the bell	iiij <i>℥</i> .	xs.
	Itm. payd for thurtene scorr and tene pounce of mettall for that she laked so muche of her substance to make her tunable at iiij <i>℥</i> . the pounce the whol som is	iiij <i>℥</i> .	xs.
	Itm. payd to John Harrin for wryttynge ou ^r fyrst bylles of this ses		xij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. payd him mor for wryttynge out this ou ^r accompt to be layd in at the courte when wee sued andrew and capenter for that thay refused to paye the said ses		xij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. payd hym more for wryttynge this ou ^r accompt into the church booke		xij <i>℥</i> .
	The som of theis Receyts is x <i>℥</i> . xiijs. xjd.		
1588	Itm. p ^d the bell founder for mendynge the seconde bell & mendynge the claper ...	iijs.	vjd.
1589	Itm. payd for mendynge & puttynge in the gugen of the 4 bell		vij <i>℥</i> .

	Itm. payd to brooke & larken for mendynge the frame of the 4 bell	xxd.
1591	Itm. payd to Kynge for mendynge the bowll of the fowerth bell claper and the gugen of the tenor and for brads	vjs.
	Itm. payd to Wyllyam Brooke for newe hanginge of the tenor and mendynge the frame	xijd.
1595	Item payed to John Philip for mendinge the badricks of the bellse agaynst the crownacion day	xijd.
	Itm. payed for mendinge the third bell whille with one clapse of iorne	vjd.
	Itm. payed for thre tovets of colles when the Bell was sodred	ixd.
	Itm. payed for sodringe of the gret bell ...	xxxs.
1596	ij newe bell ropes	vjs. xd.
1598	2 bellropes at Canterbury the 26 of July ...	vs. iiijd.
1600	Item layd out to the bell founder the second of november 1600 for shooting our bell ... iij <i>l</i> .	xvjs.
	Item payd to John Hills for his helpe to stocke our bell	iiijd.
	Item payd to Thomas Maslye for carrying our bell and bringing her agayn	vjs.
1601	Item layed out when he was sited to court about the Bells	3s. ijd.
	Item layd out for a great Rope	ixs. iiijd.
	Item spent when we had in the bells	ijs. iiijd.
	Item payd for caryng of the bells to Bromfeild	xxjs.
	Item payd for a peece of tymber to take up the bells	vjd.
	Item payd to M ^r Grezbroke for wryting a bonde & a presentment	xijd.
	Item payd to John Hills for having out of the bells	xxijd.
	Item payd to John Murvell for worke about the bells	ijs. vjd.

Item payd to John Hills for hauing up of the bells and for hanging of them	vjs.	ij <i>d</i> .
Item to the smith of Woodchurch for mending of a clapper	iijs.	v <i>d</i> .
Item payd to Georg Gadsbye for making & mending a clapper	viijs.	
Item payd to George Morris for mending of a clapper	iijs.	
Item payd to the smith of Woodchurch for making of a clapper	vjs.	
Item payd for carrying forth the clapper and other worke		vii <i>d</i> .
Item payd to the smith of Woodchurch for mending of a clapper	ijs.	x <i>d</i> .
Item payd to Georg Morris for mending of a clapper	ijs.	
Item payd for carrying for of an other clapper to mend		v <i>d</i> .
Item Hatch had for shooting of our bells & for the metall of the overpluse that went into them	14 <i>l</i> .	18 <i>s</i> .
A note of remembrance of the waight & charges of the bells		
Imprimis the great bell wayed xiiij hundereth & a half		
Item the fourth bell wayed xiiij hundereth before they weare new shoote		
Item the great bell wayed xv hundereth & xxj pownde		
Item the fowrth bell wayed xiiij hundereth when they weare new made		
1606 Item for a rope for the chauncell bell* ...		v <i>d</i> .
1608 Pd to Robert Hubbart for newe bouleing of the clapper of the fourth bell		xijs.

* I suppose this must have been the sanctus bell, placed in a little pent-house over the chancel arch. See next entry but one. It is now at the top of the tower.

1609	p ^d for mendeing the Saints bell house ...	ijjs.	vjd.
1612	Item paied to the Bellfounders man when hee tooke the bell	ijjs.	
	Spent more on him in bread and beare ...		vd.
	Item when I went to Feversham to gat the bell carried to London for my dinner		vjd.
	Item for my horse meate		vjd.
	Item spent when wee tooke downe the bell in bread and beare		xijd.
	Item spent when I went to London to see the waight of the bell for fowre daies	iijs.	
	Item for my goinge upp and downe in the barge... ..		iiijd.
	Item for my horsemeate at Graves ende ...		xviijd.
	Item at Canterburie the nexte daie after mid- sommer daie when I went to gett longer time for the bell		xijd.
	Item paied to John Hills for takinge downe of the bell and to helpe loade him againe ...		xviijd.
	Item laid owte for iij bell ropes which waied one and twentie pounce and a half... ..	viijs.	
	Item for casting of the bell	xiijs.	
	Item for my expences when I fetcht the bell at feversham		xijd.
	Item paid to Richard Balie for carriinge of the bell to feversham and bringing of her againe	xxs.	
1613	Item beinge sited for the bell... ..	ijjs.	
	Item to my proctor for a motion for a time for the bell	js.	
	Item the fourth of Julie for the bell founders man in bread and beere		viijd.
	Item the xviiij th of Julie spent upon the bell founder himself supper and breakefast ...	ijjs.	vjd.
	Item spent in bread and wine when the bell was taken downe	ijjs.	jd.
	Item for writing the bondes betweene the Bell- founder and the Churchwarden	js.	

	Item to Hatch the bell founder for three hundred and a half of nue bell mettle at x ^d the pounce	... ..	xvj <i>li.</i>	vjs.	vij <i>d.</i>
	Item laied out to Henrie Carpenter for carring the ould bell and bringing the nue...	...		xs.	
	Item laied owte to John Hills about the Bell for five daies worke at xvij ^d the daie	...		vjs.	vj <i>d.</i>
	Item for the bellfounders Brothers horse and dinner	... ..			vij <i>d.</i>
1614	Item laied out for the Bellfounders dinner at Phillipps the 26th daie of Aprill and for his horse...	... ..			xvij <i>d.</i>
14 May	Item laied out onto the ropemaker for fowre ropes...	... ..		vijjs.	4 <i>d.</i>
23 May	Item paied to Hatch the Bell-founder		10 <i>li.</i>	xijs.	xvij <i>d. ob.</i>
1621—12	April. p ^d to Alexander Cooke for 4 bellropes			13 <i>s.</i>	
	It. p ^d to y ^e Bellfounder for suting y ^e bell	...	7 <i>li.</i>	10 <i>s.</i>	
	It. p ^d to hym for shooting y ^e brases	... ..	1 <i>li.</i>	4 <i>s.</i>	2 <i>d.</i>
	It. p ^d to him for 200 & 5 pownde of bell mettell at 10 ^d y ^e pownd	... ..	9 <i>li.</i>	10 <i>s.</i>	10 <i>d.</i>
	It. p ^d to Mr Trusse for carryeing & recaryeing y ^e bell & o ^r charges	... ..		10 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. p ^d to Mat. Davye for taking downe y ^e bell & hanging her up & for fetting in y ^e brases...		1 <i>li.</i>		
1623	Accounte for the belles :				
	Inprimis spent when we went to bargayne at Lenham	... ..		2 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. paid to Goodman finner for 9 tonne of timber	... ..	3 <i>li.</i>	13 <i>s.</i>	
	It. to Goodman Hunte for carryeing of it	...	1 <i>li.</i>	10 <i>s.</i>	
	It. to John Brickenden of Woodchurch for 3 planks to make wheelles	... ..		9 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. for fetching of them	... ..		2 <i>s.</i>	8 <i>d.</i>
	It. to Thomas Milkesteede for 80 foote & half of ynch borde & half a hundred of q ^t ers & other peces & for fetching them	... ..		13 <i>s.</i>	4 <i>d.</i>
	It. to Goodman Crust for making the frame & hanging the belles	... ..	14 <i>li.</i>	8 <i>s.</i>	

	It. p ^d to Crust for putting up peeces of tymber to stay the ropes & for saweing those peeces & for a gudgen & a boulte	13s.	
	It. for 3 payre of gloues for his men when they did reare the frame	2s.	
	It. spent on them when they had done their worke	1s.	
	It. for tuning the belles	1 <i>li.</i>	
	It. to Adman for 5 bellropes	14s.	2 <i>d.</i>
	It. to Crust since for making a newe wheele & for trussing the belles	14s.	
	It. to Arthur for 2 payre of sheres for stokes & for making boulttes &c &c	3s.	3 <i>d.</i>
	It. to Goodman Hunte for fetching a tymber balte at Daniel Newers at Plucklye to make stockes for y ^e belles	5s.	
1630-1-2	p ^d to the bell fownder for bell mettell ...	1 <i>li.</i>	12s. 0 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d for a payer of Indentuers and a bond for to have the bell cast	3s.	
	p ^d for our expences and for pasture for our beasts when we were at the bell fownders ...	10s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d for a sett of bell ropes	17s.	1 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d to the bell fownder for shoottinge of the great bell	7 <i>li.</i>	
	p ^d to John Hills for 2 dayes work about the bells	3s.	
	(Two similar entries for three and two days' work respectively.)		
	p ^d to Thomas Milsted for a peece of tymber to make a rowle	3s.	
	p ^d for 2 levers and for rayles	3s.	
	p ^d for bread and beere for those which did help up w th the bell	1s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d for carrying of the bell	1 <i>li.</i>	
	paid for fetching of a load of stone to waigh the bell	1s.	4 <i>d.</i>
	paid to Henry Stonstreet for a horse to the bell fownders house when we carried the bell		9 <i>d.</i>

1633	Ite. for a sett of bell ropes	1 <i>li.</i>	2 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
1634	Paid to the bell fownder for casting of the bell*	4 <i>li.</i>	13 <i>s.</i>	4 <i>d.</i>
	Paid more to the bell fownder for mettell to put in the bell	1 <i>li.</i>	4 <i>s.</i>	
	Paid for the hire of a horse when wee carried the bell for 3 dayes		1 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	Paid to Hills for hanging of the bell		2 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	Paid for our expences when wee carried and fett the bell		1 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	Paid for expences for those w ^{ch} did help up w th the bell		3 <i>s.</i>	
1637	Ite. for a sett of bell ropes in weight 52 ^{li} at 7 ^d by the pound	1 <i>li.</i>	10 <i>s.</i>	4 <i>d.</i>
1640	(A sett weighing 50 lb. cost £1 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>)			
1650	Item to Richard Arrowes for ringing the bells and his other service about y ^e church ...	1 <i>li.</i>	10 <i>s.</i>	
1662-63	Item. p ^d to W ^m Hatch the bell fownder for casting the fourth Bell and the 5 th Bell† according to Articles of Agree ^t indented ...	12 <i>li.</i>	13 <i>s.</i>	
	Item. p ^d for draweing three copies of the Articles of Agree ^{mt} and two double Bonds		7 <i>s.</i>	
	Item. for the hyre of a Horse three journeyes to the Bellfownder		4 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	Item. expended those three daies		4 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	Item. spent when the Bellfownder tooke the bells to cast		6 <i>s.</i>	
	Item. spent upon those y ^t helped to take downe the Bells		3 <i>s.</i>	4 <i>d.</i>
	Item. spent when wee p ^d the Bellfownder upon him and the Ringars		2 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	Item. spent when the bell was taken out of the waggon when shee was brought home ...		1 <i>s.</i>	2 <i>d.</i>
	Item. p ^d Thomas Tucker for work about the Bells		9 <i>s.</i>	

* The present 2nd, then the treble of the ring.

† The sanctus and the present 5th.

	Itm. p ^d Nathaneel Burr for caryinge the Bells to the Bellfounder and fetchinge y ^m backe againē	1 <i>li.</i>	2 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	Itm. p ^d for a new Bardercke for y ^e Saint's bell		1 <i>s.</i>	
1666-67	Bell ropes, 43 lbs. cost 6 <i>d.</i> per lb.			
1683	To James Burr in full for hanginge of the Bells	3 <i>li.</i>		
	paid for expences when y ^e bells were new hanged	2 <i>li.</i>	0 <i>s.</i>	3 <i>d.</i>
1690	To Edm Leedes for drawing the Keyes of the bells & putting in a batherick to y ^e tenor ...		4 <i>s.</i>	
	To him for hemming the Hosthaire for the window & splicing Bell ropes		1 <i>s.</i>	
1691	To the Ringers on the Thankesgiving day (? Nov. 17)		1 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
1692	To John Marks for trimminge the Bells ...		4 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
1700	p ^d to y ^e Ringer at gunpoudre ploat day ...		2 <i>s.</i>	
1706	p ^d for Ringing at y ^e day of Reioycing for Malbory		2 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	A set of bell ropes purchased regularly every year at this time.			
1713-14	Spent when the bell was taken down ...		2 <i>s.</i>	
	Paid to M ^r Edmunds for carrying the Bell to and from London		10 <i>s.</i>	
	Paid to W ^m Small Rob ^t Beeching & John Brenchley for new hanging y ^e Bells as p Bill	2 <i>li.</i>	4 <i>s.</i>	
	Paid Tho Bright for carrying the bell to and from Maidstone		13 <i>s.</i>	
	Paid M ^r Phelps for new casting y ^e Second Bell* weighing 8 Hund.	8 <i>li.</i>	12 <i>s.</i>	
	Paid for four Letters from y ^e Bell founder ...		1 <i>s.</i>	
1716	Gave the Ringers upon the Kings safe return		5 <i>s.</i>	
1721	We whose names are subscribed to the above written account with severall other inhabi- tants of this parish do agree & order for y ^e time to come that ten shillings & no more			

* The present 3rd.

shall be given by y^e churchwardens to y^e ringers in maner following to wit half a crown on y^e Kings birth day & his cronation day y^e princes Birthday. and y^e fifth day of November.

1736	p ^d to M ^r ffurner as by bill	£6	12s.*	
1759	Paid John Foster of Egerton for making a new frame for the Bells & Furnishing a new Treble Bell and Hanging of the six Bells & making the wood work for 6 Stays ...	95 <i>li.</i>	15 <i>s.</i>	
1760	Paid Robert Gilbert for altering the frames and the Hanging of the Bells ...	8 <i>li.</i>	15 <i>s.</i>	
1784	Paid Williams Simmons for two Setts of Bell Ropes ...	3 <i>li.</i>		
1787	p ^d M ^r Steddy for a New Bell ...	51 <i>li.</i>		
	p ^d M ^r Steddy for repairing the Bells ...	1 <i>li.</i>	1 <i>s.</i>	
	p ^d M ^r Steddy for new hanging the Bells ...	1 <i>li.</i>	1 <i>s.</i>	4 <i>d.</i>

BETTESHANGER.

ST. MARY.

3 Bells.

I., 21½-in. MARIA PLENA GRACIE
MATER MISERICORDIE
SCA U MARIA

II., 25-in. Betshanger Sir Walter Charles James Bart
Mears Founder London Mdcclix

III., 27-in. J WARNER & SONS CRESCENT FOUNDRY LONDON
1854

The treble (by William Oldfeild, of Canterbury, see p. 55) is the survivor of a ring of three, all of doubtless the same date—some time late in Henry VIII.'s reign. We get the following account of them in Hasted (Folio Edition, vol. iv., p. 185):

“On the treble bell is this legend in old English letters, ‘Maria plena gracia mater misericordie.’ An escutcheon, on each side of which ‘Sca Maria.’ The arms: Quarterly 1st, Cocks; 2nd, per chevron, in chief 3 escallops; 3rd, two bends; 4th, a bend ermine between two swans, impaling Clifford and Guldeford, quartered with Colepeper.

* See p. 105, and under Plaxtol, *post.*

"On the 2nd bell, 'Istœ tres nolce sunt fratrum dona duorum.' An escutcheon—on each side 'Scs Thomas.' Arms: Cocks and the other three coats first above mentioned.

"On the 3rd bell, 'Hic olim pastor atq: patronus crant.' Arms the same as the 2nd bell, and under, 'Scs Edmundus Rex.'

"The arms are all reversed from what is mentioned above through the ignorance or mistake of the bell founder. At the end of each of the above sentences is the reverse of a silver coin of the date of the bells—probably Henry VI.

"Thomas Cocks, who died in 1558, was the patron, and his brother, William Clericus, was the pastor. They were the sons of Alice Cocks, the daughter of — Litchfield. Thomas married Margaret, daughter of Sir Lewis Clifford, by Bennet, daughter of John Guldeforde, which Sir Lewis was the son of Alexander Clifford by Mary, daughter of Walter Colepeper."

We have a little further light thrown on the family at p. 184, as follows:

"Roger Lychfeld died 4 Hen. VIII., and left Betshanger to Edward, son and heir of his son William, deceased, in tail, remainder to his son, Gregory; and then in like tail to his three daughters, Alyce Cocks, Joane Rutter, and Betryne Wolett, who at length, by the deaths of the said Edward and Gregory without issue, became entitled to it, and on the division of their inheritance this manor was allotted to Alyce, who entitled her husband, Thomas Cocks, Esquire, customer of Sandwich, to the possession of it, and he at the latter end of that reign alienated it to John Boys" (of Canterbury).

The coat of arms (reversed) on the treble is as under:

Colepeper	Guldeford	Clifford	2 ?	1 Cocks
	Guldeford	Clifford	4 ?	3 Lichfield

- Baron*.—1. A chevron between 3 stags attires fixed to the scalps *Cocks*.
 2. per chevron. In chief 3 estoiles ? *Wigston*.
 3. Two bends *Lichfield*.
 4. A bend between two swans... .. ? *Petwin*.

Femme.—*Clifford*. Chequy or. and az : (fesse or bend) within a bordure.

Guldeford. A saltire between 4 martlets.

Colepeper. A bend engrailed.

BEXLEY.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

- I., 25½-in. THOMAS JANAWAY OF LONDON FECIT 1763
 II., 27¼-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1827
 THO^S HARMAN }
 CHARLES FRANCIS } CHURCH WARDENS
 III., 28½-in. YE RULERS THAT ARE PUT IN TRUST: TO JUDGE
 OF WRONG AND RIGHT
 BE ALL YOUR JUDGMENTS TRUE AND JUST :
 REGARDING NO MANS MIGHT
 T : JANAWAY FECIT 1763
 IV., 29½-in. Same as on No. I.
 V., 32-in. THOMAS JANAWAY OF LONDON MADE US ALL
 1763
 VI., 36-in. ABRAHAM BODLE & ROBERT REEVES: CH : WAR-
 DENS 1763 THO^S JANAWAY OF LONDON FECIT
 T. R. E. Item iij bells suted in the steple and one lytle bell and one hand
 bell.

Hasted notes that prior to 1763 there were five bells new cast in that year "into a small peal of 6, besides which there is a sancta bell." This last has apparently since disappeared.

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Begin with "tellers"—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female—then minute strokes. At funerals: bell tolled until corpse reaches the lich-gate.

On Sundays, ringing commences half an hour before service. "Ringing in" during last ten minutes.

New Year's Eve ringing discontinued. The ringers evidently looked upon it as a purely commercial transaction, and ran the price up too high.

Best thanks to the Rev. J. M. Fuller, Vicar.

BEXLEY ST. JOHN. 1 Bell.

A modern church with presumably one modern bell.

HOLY TRINITY (LAMOREY). 1 Bell.

Modern church with one modern bell.

(WELLING.) 1 Bell.

Mission Church.

BEXLEY HEATH. CHRISTCHURCH. 1 Bell.

I., 19½-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1836

BICKLEY. ST. GEORGE. 1 Bell.

I., 25½-in. J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1864

BICKNOR. ST. JAMES. 4 Bells.

I., 15-in.	NAYLOR VICKERS & C ^o SHEFFIELD 1862	N ^o 3222
II., 18½-in.	Same.	N ^o 3062
III., 20-in.	Same.	N ^o 3068
IV., 21-in.	Same.	N ^o 3143

These are all steel bells.

In 1760 there was but 'one small bell.'

BIDBOROUGH. ST. LAURENCE. 2 Bells.

I., 24-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1851

II., 25½-in. C H 1684

The remains—so it is said—of a ring of four or five. Local tradition affirms the missing ones to have gone to the neighbouring parish of Leigh. Doubtless they were sold during the 18th century for funds to "repair and beautify" the church.

Thomas Fane, gentleman, of the parish of St. Peter-le-poer, London, by his will in 1532, devised sundry lands in this and other Kentish parishes to his son, Thomas, with sundry "remainders over;"—lastly to Edward Garth—"on condition that he pays *cl.* to the amendment of the highways about Tunbridge within five years, and to a tuncable tenor bell to the bells at Bytborough."—(*Testamenta Vetusta*, p. 657.)

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received by sexton, but not after sunset. Tellers, 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female—no distinction for age. No knell on day of funeral, but bell tolled for about half an hour before the burial.

Sundays : A bell chimed for five minutes at 8 a.m. (Matins bell), otherwise used for services only.

BIDDENDEN.

ALL SAINTS.

8 and Priest's Bells.

- I., 30-in. JOHN MATHER RECTOR RICH^d BEALE & JAM^s FREEMAN
CHURCH WARDENS 1784 ROB^t PATRICK OF LONDON
FOUNDER
- II., 31-in. THE FIRST & SECOND BELL SUBSCRIBED FOR ANNO DOMINI
1784
- III., 33-in. HERE YOV MAY SEE THE YOVTH BOVGHT ME
I : I : R : D : CH : W : R : P : FECIT 1712
- IV., 37-in. Robertus + Mos + fecit + me + Petris + 1599 R & A
Ⓢ
- V., 40-in. BENJⁿ BEHEN CH. WARDEN 1763. LESTER & PACK OF
LONDON FECIT
- VI., 42½-in. RECAST 1812 REV^d EDW^d NARES RECTOR W^m COLEY Jⁿ^o
DEAN CHURCH WARDENS
- VII., 46-in. IOHN MATHER RECTOR. BENI. BEKEN & CHA^s
DAY CH. WARDENS 1759 LESTER & PACK OF
LONDON FECIT
- VIII., 50½-in. IOHN IENNINGS ROBERT DIBLY CHVRCH-
WARDENS RICHARD PHELPS FECIT 1712
- Priest's 15½-in. FRANCIS TAYLOR CH : W : 1717 R : PHELPS FECIT

The Sanctus or Priest's bell is lying in the church porch, unhung and clapperless. It is a pity it is not put to some use.

Death knell—rung as soon as notice received; tenor bell for men, first, tellers of three strokes *twice* repeated; toll for five minutes and ring for half an hour. Same bell and use for women, but tellers 2×2 only. For children of both sexes the 6th bell is used.

On day of funeral, in early morning the first six bells are each struck thrice or twice, according to sex; same repeated; then tenor rung for half an hour. For children, the first five bells are similarly struck, and then 6th bell rung. Tenor tolled in all cases for an hour before burial.

Sunday ringing—8 a.m. or "Matins Bell" rung for five minutes (2nd bell);

9 a.m. or "Mass Bell;" two bells (4th and 5th or 6th and 7th) rung for a quarter of an hour, and then all eight bells chimed.

Immediately after sermon 2nd bell rung for five minutes, to denote an afternoon service.

At 2 p.m. the bells are rung as at 9 a.m. This is a very curious custom—can it be a survival of anything?

For service, tenor tolled for twenty minutes.

Ringin on Easter Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and when confirmations are held.

Tenor bell tolled for three minutes before vestry meetings.

Ringin on the usual loyal anniversaries, and on the Forester's Day.

There are many notices of peals rung by the Society of Biddenden Youths.

Best thanks to the Rev. W. Peterson, Rector.

BILSINGTON. SS. PETER AND PAUL. 2, formerly 3 Bells.

I., 29-in. MICHAEL IEMETT CH: WARDEN RICHARD PHELPS
MADE ME 1710

II., 39-in. *In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Iohannis*
⊔ ⊕ ⊔

Both bells are cracked.

T. R. E. Item iij belles in the steeple.

The stamps on the larger bell are Nos. 27, 26, and 25.

BIRCHINGTON. ALL SAINTS. 5 Bells.

I., 28½-in. SAM=KNIGHT ME FECIT 1728 ○ ○ ○

II., 29-in. WILLIAM ASTERSON SK ME FECIT 1728

III., 30½-in. WILLIAM JEPP CW SK ME FECIT 1728

IV., 35-in. *ioseph hatch made me* ☉ 1633

WH

V., 36-in. SAMUEL KNIGHT MADE ME 1730

Death knell usually rung at 7.30 on morning after death. Tellers at both beginning and end—3 × 3 for male, 2 × 2 for female. On day of funeral bell tolled early, and at time of interment.

Bells chimed for services—"ringing in" on treble for the last five minutes.

No peals rung now, the bells being out of order.

There is a very light ring of twelve bells in the tower of Quex Park in this parish. They are by Thomas Mears the younger, and dated 1318.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. J. P. Alcock, jun., for above information, as well as for leave to extract the following from his parish accounts, which are of unusual interest, commencing in the year 1531 :

1532	Itm. for ij belroyps on to the grett bell and one other to the smalbel the p ^r	xviij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for one pott of oylle	vij <i>d. ob.</i>
1533	Itm. Ryngyng at the tempes to thomas nor- mane	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for one pott of oylle	vj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for one bell roype	xd.
	Itm. for mendyng of the clappyr of the grayt bell	ijs. vj <i>d.</i>
1534	Itm. for one bell rope	xd.
	Itm. for mendyng of the grt bell clappyr ...	xij <i>d.</i>
1535	Itm. for ij bell Roppys	xviij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for Ryngyng at The tempes	vj <i>d.</i>
1536	Itm. for mēdyng of The grayt bell clappyr ...	xj <i>d.</i>
1538	Itm. for ij bell rops	ijs.
	Itm. for mēdyng of ij bell clappys	iijs. iiij <i>d.</i>
1539	Itm. for on bellclappyr mēdyng	xx <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for on bawdryk	xx <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payt for mēdyng of the greyt bell clappyr	ijs. xd.
	Itm. for one bawdryk to the same bell ...	ix <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for on bell rope	viiij <i>d.</i>
1540	Itm. to John Swane for mēdyng of the bell clappyr and the bokkyl	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for one bawdryk	xx <i>d.</i>
1541	Itm. for Ryngyng at the tempes	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. to the Smyth for mēdyng the greyt beil hernessee	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for one bell Rope	ix <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for mendyng of the bellys to the Smyth	xx <i>d.</i>
1542	Itm. one bell Rope the pce	xv <i>d.</i>
	Itm. on other bell Rope the pce	viiij <i>d.</i>
1543	Itm. for on bell rope	xd.

1544	Itm. for one bell rope	xiiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. to Thomas Coke for mendyng of y ^e grett bells claper	ij <i>s.</i>
1546	ffor ij bellropes	xiiij <i>d.</i>
	To a carpinter for mendinge of the bell ^e ...	xx <i>d.</i>
	ffor yron worke for the myddell bell	xvj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for iij bawderyks	vs.
1547	Itm. for one bell rope	xj <i>d. ob.</i>
	Itm. for one bell rope	viiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. one bell rope	viiij <i>d.</i>
2 Ed. VI.	Itm. for a bell rope	xij <i>d.</i>
1549	Itm. for a bell rope	xd.
1551	Itm. for castyng of the seconbell*	liij <i>s.</i> xiiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for xiiij pound of newe mettall & for y ^e waste	vs. ix <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd caryn of the bell to Cantorberye ...	iiij <i>s.</i>
	Itm. payd for met & drynke and horse met ...	vs. vj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd to John Pettett for hys horse to Cantorbere	vj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for bred & drynke when y ^e bell was taken done	vj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for y ^e belfunders dynnar & his chargys	xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for a newe bell Roop for y ^e seconbell	xvij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for stockyng of ij bells & for mend- yng the wyndows in y ^e steple	ix <i>s.</i>
	Itm. payd for mēdyng of the seconde bell clapper	iiij <i>s.</i> iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for y ^e yeron worke of y ^e second bell ...	ij <i>s.</i> iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for y ^e yeron to hange y ^e gret bell xx ^{ti} pounds wayett & a halfe of newe yeron ...	iiij <i>s.</i> iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for mēdyng of y ^e other yerons for the other bells & for brads	xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for hauey up of y ^e secon bell & in meet and drynke for them y ^t hellped us ...	xvij <i>d.</i>
1 May	Itm. payd for mendyng of y ^e Grete bell ...	ij <i>d.</i>

* Doubtless by William Oldfeild of Canterbury.

1-2 Ph. & Mary.	Itm. for ij bells ropys	...	...	...	xix <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for a bawdricke	...	...	...	xix <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for mending of the bell clappers	...			ijs. v <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for a rope for the grete bell	...	...		xv <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for a bell rope	...	...	...	xv <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for iij new bawdricks and yes of yron to them	...	...	...	iiij <i>s.</i> v <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for a bell rope	...	...	...	xvii <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
3-4 P. & M.	Item for ij bellropys	...	...	...	ijs. ii <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
2nd Eliz.	Item layde out for a belrope for the Great bell	...	...	...	xv <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
	Item layde out for a belrope	...	...	...	xiiij <i>d.</i>
	Item layde out to y ^e Smyth for yorne worcke to ye bell	...	...	...	vs.
3rd Eliz.	Item layde out for the seconde belroppe	...			xv <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
	Item layde out to a carpenter a dayes worcke ij men for mending y ^e bell	...	...		x <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
	For there meate and dryncke the same tyme...				vii <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
	Item for woode to mende the bell	...	...		iiij <i>d.</i>
	Item layde out to — the Smyth for mending ij bel clappers	...	...	...	v <i>j</i> <i>s.</i>
	Item layde out for the carpenter for trussing the iij bells	...	...	...	xs. iiij <i>d.</i>
1562	Item for a belrope	...	...	...	xvii <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
1563-64	ffor mending the bell	...	...	...	vs.
	ffor iron worke for the bell	...	...	...	x <i>d.</i>
	ffor a bell rope	...	...	...	xxi <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
1567	ffor a bell rope	...	...	...	xxi <i>j</i> <i>d.</i>
	ffor ij weynskottes to make the whele for the litle bell	...	...	...	iiij <i>s.</i>
	p ^d to the worckman and his ij men for three daies worcke	...	...	...	v <i>j</i> <i>s.</i>
	p ^d to John Caules for theyr meat & drinke	...			vs.
1569	paid for a belrope	...	...	...	xx <i>d.</i>
1574	Itm. for a bellroppe	...	...	...	x <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for a bellrope	...	...	...	xx <i>d.</i>
? 1576	Ffirst to W ^m Wartman for a bell rope	...			ijs. iiij <i>d.</i>

	Itm. to Skilton the carpinter for two daies worcke for him and two men about trussinge upp the belles	xjs.	viiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. to W ^m Simons for Iron worcke about the belles... ..		xviiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for ij bell ropes		xxij <i>d.</i>
1578	Itm. spente at the pullinge downe of the Bell...	ijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. in charges aboute Bell	iijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for the Bawdricke of the greate Bell ...		xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. the Dinner of v men		xx <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for the Dinner of the Belfounder and his mann... ..		x <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for the daies worcke of a carpint ^r ...		vj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for the Smithes worcke		xviiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for drinke at the wayinge of the Bell and at the castinge of the same		xiiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for iiij horses meate		xvj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for cariage of the Bell	vjs.	viiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for the castinge and for mettall to the Bell	vj <i>li.</i>	xx <i>d.</i>
1579	fīrst makeinge the greate Bell clapp ^r w ^{ch} waied xxxiiij ^{li} at iij <i>d.</i> the li	viijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for Roundeinge the clapper of the seconde Bell		ix <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for ij Bell Roppes	ijs.	viiij <i>d.</i>
1581	Itm. for a belrope	ijs.	
	Itm. to Isaacke Simons for mendinge the bell clapp ^r	iijs.	4 <i>d.</i>
1585	ffor baudrickes to the belles		xxij <i>d.</i>
1586	ffor two bell Ropes	iijs.	viiij <i>d.</i>
1588	for mending the bell clappers	ijs.	vj <i>d.</i>
1590-91	for bell roopes	iijs.	ij <i>d.</i>
	It. for mendinge the bell clapper		xviiij <i>d.</i>
1600	It. to the carpenter for workeman shipp & timeber for the bells... ..	xxxixs.	
	It. payd for bawdrickes	iijs.	
1605	It. for charges at taking Downe the bell ...		viiij <i>d.</i>

1606	Inprimis for taking downe the 2 bells	...	vij ^s .	
	It. for carrying & recarrying the bells...	...	iiij ^l .	
	It. for other charge in going & coning	...	xxiijs.	iiij ^d .
	It. for baudricks	... ..	ij ^s .	vij ^d .
	It. when the belfounder came at Christmas	...		xviiij ^d .
(Paid by other warden)	Inprimis for taking downe the bells			xxij ^d .
	It. at carying and recarying the bels	...	xvijs.	
	It. p ^d to the Carpenter...	...	xxvs.	
	It. p ^d to the Sawyers	...	xij ^s .	
	(Other payments in large detail)			
	It. for charges in going to Cant. w ^h the founder		iijs.	iiij ^d .
	It. for going w ^h the founder the 2 tyme	...	iijs.	iiij ^d .
	It. for two new bell ropes	...	vjs.	xd.
	It. for making the ey of the clapper	...	js.	vj ^d .
	It. p ^d to the founder at Christmas	...	viiij ^l .	
	It. p ^d to hire the 2 tyme	...	vj ^l .	

This recasting was clearly by Joseph Hatch. His receipt for part payment is still preserved, and is as follows :

<p>Receved by me Joseph Hatch of the pishe of Bromfeild in the County of Kent the summe of viij^l. w^{ch} is in pt of payment of xxiiij^l. xviijs. viij^d. payable by the wardens of the pish of Birchington in the Isle of Than- nett for casting ther bells as by an obligation more playnly appeareth. I say rec^d by me at the handes of Robert Cavill one of the wordens aforesayd the viijth day of January</p>	<p>viiij^l.</p>
1606	

Delivered in the presence of	Joseph I H Hatch
James Badnore minister	by his m ^{ke}

1607 to 1619 Only small payments recorded.

1620	It. for Beer when y ^e Bellfounder came ou'	...	2s.	6d.
	It. at taking down of y ^e Bell	...	3s.	4d.
	It. to Joseph Hatch for casting of y ^e bell	...	7 ^l .	16s. 8d.
	It. for myselfe and my horse 2 Dayes about y ^e Bell	...	10s.	0d.

	It. for Beer at y ^e taking up of y ^e Bell...	...	2s.	0d.
	It. to y ^e Shoomaker for mending y ^e Bells Bath- rickes	... ..	1s.	0d.
	It. to Thomas Trier for carrying y ^e Bells & shindles	... .. 2li.	0s.	0d.
	It. for my journey to Canterbury & my horse to pay y ^e Bellfounder his last payment	...	3s.	6d.
	It. for a bathricke for on of y ^e Bells	...	2s.	0d.
	It. to Thomas Groomes for making y ^e writings betwixt y ^e Bellfounder & us...	...	2s.	6d.
	It. for another bathricke for on of y ^e Bells	...	2s.	0d.
	It. to John Hayward for fetching of that bath- ricke	.. ...		4d.
	It. to Robert Cauell for work about y ^e Bells	...	7s.	2d.
1624	It. for a messengers hyre to goe to y ^e Bell- founder & for y ^e Bellfounders supper and breakefast when he came ou'	... ..	10s.	0d.
	It. for making one paire of Indentures between him & us	... ..	2s.	6d.
	It. for charges at y ^e taking downe and up of y ^e Bell	... ..	5s.	8d.
	It. for carrying y ^e old Bell & bringing y ^e new	1li. 10s.		0d.
	It. to y ^e Bellfounder for new casting y ^e Bell	7li. 10s.		0d.
	It. for 31 pound of mettle wayighing more than y ^e old Bell	... .. 1li. 11s.		0d.

No items of much interest for some years. Curiously enough, there are no entries at all of the recasting of the present No. 4 in 1633. It would therefore seem to have been done at the expense of some private benefactor. In 1642, two new bell ropes weighing $20\frac{1}{2}$ lb. cost 6*d.* per lb., and there are payments of 30*s.* to bell-hanger and his man for nine days' work, and of 26*s.* for a new wheel and other materials.

During the Parliamentary period, the entries are still more scanty. In 1655 50 lb. of rope cost 5*d.* per lb.; George Smith is paid 1*s.* 6*d.* for mending the little bell, and "Nuby" a similar sum "for the little bells baldricke." And there are a few other like items.

Activity commences with the Restoration.

1663-65	Spent at the Bell founders takeing downe the Bells in Beere	5 <i>s.</i>	
	Spent when we got the Bells into the church	1 <i>s.</i>	
	Paid to John Neame for fetching the first two bells	1 <i>li.</i>	
	Paid for fetching the Treble from Canterbury	5 <i>s.</i>	
	Item at the same time spent on y ^e Bell founder p ^d for fetching the Bell frame from Minster ...	5 <i>s.</i>	
	Spent on the workmen w ^{ch} came to worke on the bell frame	1 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d Tho Fuller for the fframe	20 <i>li.</i>	
	p ^d for 4 bardricks and the putting them on ...	12 <i>s.</i>	
	Item spent on the Carpenter & Ringers that daie the bells were hang ^d upp	5 <i>s.</i>	
	Item p ^d Newby for makeing of a Bardrick for the fowerth Bell	5 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d Goodman Moyse for 5 Bell roapes ...	18 <i>s.</i>	
	It. p ^d Robert Twyman for 3 new Clappers w ^t 48 ^{lb}	2 <i>li.</i>	8 <i>s.</i>
	It. for mending the other clappers	3 <i>s.</i>	
	Many other payments for the frame and hanging follow here.		
	Item paid Thomas Palmer Bell founder as appears by his acquittance the sume of ...	25 <i>li.</i>	
1668-9	paid to Goodman Twidden for drilling of 4 holes in the 3 bell and mending of all the rest	3 <i>li.</i>	
	paid moer the same time to John Smith for lether to use about the belles		8 <i>d.</i>
1683-4	5 Bell rops cost	11 <i>s.</i>	9 <i>d.</i>
	Spent upon y ^e Ringers on pouder plott ...	2 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	paid Henrie Hills for drink for y ^e Ringers which was drink pouder plot 1683	2 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
1684-5	4 Bell ropes cost	11 <i>s.</i>	8 <i>d.</i>
1685-6	for 5 new Belroops wayinge 28 ^{lb} $\frac{1}{2}$ at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d ...	12 <i>s.</i>	7 <i>d.</i>
1686-88	To Mary East Smithe (&c.)		
	To y ^e said Mary for mending y ^e bell guggens	1 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>

	To y ^e said Mary for 4 bolts about the bells ...	2s.	
	To y ^e said Mary for forelocks and Keas about the bells	3s.	8d.
	To y ^e said Mary for speeks and brads about the bells	1s.	
	To Robert Cotton for the Ringers one holiday paid for the Ringers being powder Treason ...	1s.	
	To Richard Coleman for Leather about the bells	2s.	6d.
1688-9	A set of bell ropes	18s.	

Henceforward nearly all payments are "as by bill," and the bell entries are consequently almost impossible to be picked out. The following relate to the last recastings that have taken place.

1728-9	Spent at a parish meeting about y ^e Bells ...	4s.	9d.
	Spent on y ^e Bell founders agreeing to cast ...	2s.	
	At a meeting and takeing down y ^e Bells & charges on Founders	17s.	4d.
	Ordered to M ^r Harris & another for seeing y ^e bells weigh'd... ..	2s.	
	For Carriage to & from Canterbury y ^e Bells ...	1 <i>l</i> .	6s.
	paid for Help to unload y ^e bells when y ^e came back	3s.	
	paid to M ^r Harris &c. to drink for seing y ^e bells weigh'd after cast	2s.	
	paid for y ^e Bell hangers on first comeing according to custom	2s.	6d.
	Spent for help in drawing y ^e Bells up in y ^e Stple	5s.	2d.
	Paid y ^e Founders for casting & hanging as ap- pears by bills	25 <i>l</i> .	
1729-30	Paid to Knight y ^e founder for over mettle last years ac ^t	1 <i>l</i> .	1s.
	Paid for help unloading y ^e Bell	3s.	
	Charges on y ^e Founders	3s.	6d.
	Paid for help drawing y ^e Bell up in y ^e Stple ...	3s.	
	Paid for casting y ^e Founders Bill	5 <i>l</i> .	

	Paid for overweight in y ^e mettle of her	...	16s.
	Paid for hanging her & as it all appears by y ^e		
	bill	... ..	1 <i>li.</i> 10s.
1730-1	5 Bell ropes	... ..	18s.

There is an annual payment of 15s. for ringing, and payments for bell ropes occur regularly, but not annually, as is very common.

In 1638, according to Lewis's "History of Thanet," the inhabitants fixed the clerk's perquisites for tolling at funerals, as follows :

Inprimis.	The great bell for a knell	...	iiijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
It.	the second bell	... ..	iijs.	
It.	the littell bell	... ..	ijs.	10 <i>d.</i>

BIRCHOLT.

ST. MARGARET.

This church possessed in 1552 "ij bells in the Steple." In 1578 it was reported at the visitation that there was no church standing. In Hasted's time there were some small portions of the walls still standing—probably now "perierunt etiam ruinæ."

BIRLING.

ALL SAINTS.

6 Bells.

I., 24½-in.	LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT	1759
II., 26-in.	M ^R ARMIGILL WHITTING C ^H WARDEN	1746 T: LESTER MADE ME
III., 28-in.	THO ^S LESTER MADE ME	1746
IV., 29-in.	ioseph hatch made me	1631
V., 31½-in.	Same.	☉ 1631
VI., 34-in.	IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT RE CW	☉ 1631

BISHOPSBOURNE.

ST. MARY.

4 Bells.

I., 26-in.	CHRISTOPHER ○ HODSON ○ MADE ○ ME ○	1685
	○ ○	
II., 28-in.	ioseph hatch made me TC + CW +	☉ 1618
III., 30½ in.	Same.	
IV., 34-in.	IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT TC CW	☉ 1618

Passing bell rung—unusual "tellers"—one stroke for a man, two for a woman. A bell rung at 8 a.m. on Sunday—the old "Matins" bell.

Bells chimed for service. Sometimes rung, ex. gr., on festivals.

Best thanks to the Rector, the Rev. T. Hirst.

BLACKHEATH.

ALL SAINTS.

2 Bells.

Properly speaking, one and a priest's bell. The latter, $13\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter, is by Warner and Sons, dated 1858; the larger bell is presumably from the same foundry, and later in date.

ST. JOHN EVANGELIST.

1 Bell.

I., 41-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1853.

ST. GERMAIN.

1 Bell.

I., 18-in. THO^s JANAWAY LONDON FECIT 1769.

This chapel was, according to Hasted, built by a Mrs. Graham, who died in 1698. She is also stated to have endowed it with, *inter alia*, two pounds per annum for ringing the bell. So far, however, as I can learn, this last endowment has been lost.

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

1 Bell.

One modern bell.

MORDEN COLLEGE.

1 Bell.

A small bell about 18 in. diameter, apparently modern and devoid of inscription. It hangs in an open cupola over the entrance gate, and is used primarily as a clock bell; but it is also used to ring for service, and so is included here, although not properly a "church" bell, not being near the chapel.

BLEAN.

S.S. COSMAS AND DAMIAN.

1 Bell.

I., 22-in. W F T P 1650

Bell by Thomas Palmer, of Canterbury. Date probably 1659

BOBBING.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW.

6 Bells.

I., $26\frac{1}{2}$ -in.	} THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1804
II., $28\frac{1}{2}$ -in.	
III., $30\frac{1}{2}$ -in.	
IV., 32-in.	
V., $35\frac{1}{2}$ -in.	
VI., $37\frac{1}{2}$ -in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT THOMAS COLLEY CHURCH WARDEN 1804	

Hasted notes here only five bells. It would therefore seem that a heavy ring of five was recast into a light peal of six in 1804. They were re-hung by Warner and Sons in 1884.

Death knell rung morning after death.

Tenor tolled for half an hour before funeral.

Bells rung for services on Sundays. No special ringing on festivals, etc., either sacred or secular.

A bell tolled for vestry meeting.

Thanks due to the Rev. E. D. Carpenter, Vicar.

Tenor of this beautiful ring has recently cracked from having the clapper flight tampered with (September, 1886).

BONNINGTON.

ST. RUMWALD.

1 Bell.

I., 23-in. Blank.

T. R. E. Item ij bells in the steple.

BORDEN.

S.S. PETER AND PAUL.

8 Bells.

I., 30½-in.
II., 31½-in.
III., 33½-in.
IV., 36½-in.
V., 39-in.
VI., 41-in.
VII., 45½-in.

THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1802

VIII., 51-in. THE PRESENT EIGHT BELLS WERE CAST FROM A FORMER
PEAL OF SIX M^R JOHN VINSON M^R WILLIAM WISE
JUN^R CH. WARDENS THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT
1802

Clock strikes on tenor.

Passing bell rung as soon as death is known. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female. No ringing at funerals.

Peals on Easter Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve. Also on the Queen's and the Vicar's birthdays. This last is a "local use," peculiar, I think, to Borden.

The ring has lately been put into thorough order, at a cost to the parish of about £70, by Snelling, of Sittingbourne.

Practice every Monday evening, excepting in June, July, and August.

Best thanks to the Rev. F. E. Tuke.

BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN. S.S. PETER AND PAUL. 6 Bells.

- I., 29-in. ALTHO. I AM BOTH LIGHT & SMALL. ⁶I WILL BE HEARD
ABOVE YOU ALL
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1775.
- II., 31-in. IF YOU HAVE A JUDICIOUS EAR. YOU'LL OWN MY VOICE IS
SWEET & CLEAR
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1775.
- III., 33-in. TO HONOUR BOTH OF GOD & KING. OUR VOICES SHALL IN
CONSORT RING
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1775.
- IV., 34-in. WHILST THUS WE JOIN IN CHEARFULL SOUND. MAY LOVE &
LOYALTY ABOUND
- V., 38-in. YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE YOUR HEALTH & HAPPINESS.
BE SOBER MERRY WISE & YOU'LL THE SAME POSSESS
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1775.
- VI., 42-in. W^m HILLS & OSBORNE SNOULTON CH: WARDENS 1775.
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT

Passing bell does not seem to be rung unless specially requested. There is a knell on day of funeral, and tolling while corpse is carried to grave.

Bells chimed for Sunday services, "tolling in" on tenor.

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. H. M. Spooner.

BOUGHTON ALUPH. ALL SAINTS. 5 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. william hatch made me R B C W 1653
- II., 29-in. Same. E K C W 1652
- III., 35-in. Sancte Paule Ora Pro Nobis O O × ∇
(Fig. 32)
- IV., 37-in. THO: SPEED CH: WARDEN 1702 R: PHELPS
FECIT
- V., 40½-in. DYLEIS SISTO MELIS VO-
COR CAMPANA GABRI-
ELIS * □ * (Fig. 35)

T. R. E. Item iiij bells in the steple and one hande bell.

The third bell is by William Culverden (see p. 50).

As regards the tenor bell, the Rev. P. S. Nottidge tells me he has been informed that it was probably the gift of one of the Burghersh family. I am

afraid his informant's campanistic knowledge is very limited. Anyhow, he was mistaken. The Burghersh family sold the Manor in 1365, and the bell is nearly 200 years later. It was cast by William Oldfield, of Canterbury, probably about 1540 (see p. 55). It bears the figure of a demi-angel in high relief, no doubt intended for St. Gabriel. The initial G is very quaint in character, and will be found engraved as an initial letter to the Preface.

A grand old belfry in a very dilapidated condition. The bells, too, are in bad order, and one of the trebles is cracked.

BOUGHTON MALHERBE. ST. NICHOLAS. 3, formerly 4 Bells.

- I., 29½-in. *ioseph hatch made me* ☉ 1624
 II., 34½-in. Same.
 III., 38-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1624

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA. ST. PETER. 6 Bells.

- I., 28-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1880
 DICIT PETRO DOMINUS TU SEQUERE ME
 DEO GLORIA ET IMPERIUM IN SÆCULA SÆCULORUM
 II., 30-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1880
 DEUM TIMETE REGEM HONORIFICATE SUSCITO
 VOS IN COMMONITIONE
 III., 32-in. BELL KNAPPE RVD STON ESQVIRE 1592
 IV., 35½-in. NATHANEL TVRNER CH: WARDEN IAMES BART-
 LET MADE ME 1693 ☉
 V., 39-in. *ioseph hatch made me* I C C W ☉ 1614
 VI., 43¼-in. ED WEDD ☉ CW ☉ 1727 ☉ IOHN WAYLETT LONDON
 MADE ME ☉ ☉ ☉ ☉ ☉

The third bell is by Giles Reve. It has an ornamental border above the inscription, and between each word there is a crowned Rose.

BOXLEY. ST. MARY THE VIRGIN AND ALL SAINTS. 6 Bells.

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|------|
| I., 30-in. | } THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT { | 1803 |
| II., 31-in. | | 1803 |
| III., 33½-in. | | 1804 |
| IV., 35-in. | | 1804 |

- V., 38½-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1804
 VI., 42½-in. JOHN HUNT CHURCH WARDEN THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON
 FECIT 1803

Bells re-hung some ten or fifteen years ago, and apparently in excellent order.

In Hasted's time there were here "4 small bells, cast in 1652 by M. Darby."

BRABOURNE.

ST. MARY.

5 Bells.

- I., 29-in. **william hatch made me** E Y C W 1656
 II., 31½-in. WILLIAM HATCH MADE ME H A C W ☉ 1656
 III., 33½-in. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1774
 IV., 37½-in. RICHARD KENNETT CHURCH WARDEN PACK & CHAPMAN
 OF LONDON FECIT 1774
 V., 40½-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME ☉ 1605

T. R. E. Item iiij bells in the steple.

Item one herse bell.

Mr. Bryan Faussett's note of 1758 as to the bells here is "5 Bells all made by Joseph Hatch, 1656." This is manifestly incorrect as regards I., II., and V., but it points to the probable fact that III. and IV. were similar to I. and II. in inscription.

Passing bell rung on day of death. Tellers—the usual 3 × 3 for man or 3 × 2 for woman. Bell tolled before funerals and while corpse is being carried to the grave.

Bells chimed for services. Peals on Easter Day, Whitsun Day, New Year's Eve, and harvest festival.

The parish books contain the following entries, kindly supplied by the late Rev. P. B. Perry Ayscough :

1699	Spent about putting out* the bells & steeple	...	8s.	10d.
	Paid M ^r Hunt for taking the bells down...	...	1 <i>li</i> .	0s. 0d.
1702	Paid Jn ^o Walke and W ^m Walke Bell hangers	...	16 <i>li</i> .	0s. 0d.
	Paid Jn ^o Walke and W ^m Walke for brasses for the			
	bells	... ..	1 <i>li</i> .	8s. 0d.
1704	paid Jn ^o Walke for doing the bells	...	7s.	0d.
1711	paid W ^m Walke for work about the bells...	...	11s.	0d.
	spent on hanging the clapper	... ..		6d.

* The work to be done—the steeple was pulled down and rebuilt, and bells re-hung 1699-1702.

Inscriptions.

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BRASTED.

ST. MARTIN.

6 Bells.

I., 28-in. GILLETT & BLAND CROYDON THIS PEAL (1730)
WAS RECAST IN 1881

II., 30-in. }
III., 32-in. } GILLETT & BLAND CROYDON 1881
IV., 34-in. }
V., 37-in. }

VI., 40-in. GILLETT & BLAND CROYDON. THIS PEAL WAS
RECAST IN 1881

J. W. RYND RECTOR
W FEARON TIPPING } CHURCH WARDENS
T WELLS }

The ring which these six replaced were as follows :

I., 28-in. R : PHELPS FECIT 1730
II., 30½-in. Same.
III., 33-in. Same.
IV., 34½-in. Same.
V., 38-in. Same.
VI., 41-in. THE REV^d GEORGE SECKER D:D RECTOR : IOHN
YOUNG & ROBERT SMITH : CHURCH WARDENS
1764
THOMAS JANAWAY OF LONDON FECIT

BREDGAR.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.

5 Bells.

I., 30-in. THE GVIFT OF THOMAS ALDERSEY GENTLEMAN
1692

IACOBVS BARTLET ME FECIT

II., 32½-in. IOHN ♦ WILMAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1650
III., 36-in. +Robert + mot + made + me + MDLXXIX ♦ ♦
IV., 39-in. IOHN WILMAR 1634
V., 40-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1842

In a continuation to Mr. Bryan Faussett's MS., dated 1760, it is noted that there were then here "five bells, upon the largest of which y^e clock strikes, dedicated to St. John.

For services : Bells chimed, tolling on tenor, treble rung up for last five minutes.

The following lines are preserved here ; they date from last century :

“ My friendly Ringers I to you declare
 You must pay 1d each oath you do swear
 To turn a bell over it is the same fare
 To ring with your hats on you must not dare.”

BREDHURST.

ST. PETER.

2 Bells.

A pair of modern bells from Whitechapel, dated 1867, which replace a brace of ting-tangs, 17 and 20 inches respectively, both without inscription.

Passing bell an hour after death—rung for half an hour for a child, 45 minutes for a woman, an hour for a man. This use is peculiar. A bell tolled while funeral comes to the church.

Thanks to the Rev. J. Durst, Vicar.

BRECHLEY.

ALL SAINTS.

6 Bells.

- I., 31-in. G. MEARS & C^o FOUNDERS LONDON 1863
 II., 33-in. INTACTUM SILEO PERCUTE DULCE CANO R :
 PHELPS FECIT 1729
 III., 36½-in. *ioseph hatch made me* 1610
 IV., 40-in. JOHN RELF & I WIMSHURST CHURCHWARDENS. T. MEARS
 OF LONDON FECIT 1813
 V., 44½-in. THOMAS FVSHEZDEN C W ○ ☸ 1610 IOSEPH
 HATCH MADE ME
 VI., 47-in. WILLIAM HVIT C W ☸ 1610 IOSEPH HATCH
 MADE ME

ST. LUKE, MATFIELD.

1 Bell.

This church, built in 1877, has one bell of the same date.

Passing bell rung for half an hour as soon as death is known.

Bell tolled for half an hour before funeral.

Kindly communicated by the Rev. C. Storr.

BRENTS.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

1 Bell.

Church built 1880, and has one equally modern bell.

BRENZETT.

ST. EANSWITH.

3 Bells.

I., 33-in. IOHN \diamond WILMAR \diamond MADE \diamond ME \diamond 1630

II., 36-in. THOMAS PALMAR MADE MEE 1669 BENIAMIN
HARRIS CW TPY

III., 40-in. ∇ ∇ ∇ ∇ (Fig. 12, repeated four times)

\clubsuit (Fig. 10) *Dulcis Sisto Melis Vocor Campana
Michaelis*

T. R. E. Item iij gret bells and ij hand bells.

For account of tenor, see p. 27.

BRIDGE.

ST. PETER.

3 Bells.

I., 33-in. Blank.

II., 36-in. Blank.

III., 39-in. \clubsuit *AUD : MARIA : GRACIA :
PLENA : DNS : TEOU* ∇ (Fig. 2)

For mention of tenor bell, see p. 11.

BROADSTAIRS.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

I., 34½-in. NAYLOR VICKERS & C^o 1861 SHEFFIELD E. RIEPE'S
PATENT N^o 2734

BROCKLEY.

ST. CYPRIAN.

1 Bell.

Modern church (1882), with probably one bell of that date.

BROCKLEY HILL.

ST. SAVIOUR.

1 Bell.

Built 1866, probably only one bell of that date.

BROMLEY.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

8 and a Sanctus Bell.

I., 29-in. PROSPERITY TO THE PARISH OF BROMLEY
T: JANAWAY FECIT 1773

II., 30-in. MUSICA EST MENTIS MEDICINA
THOMAS JANAWAY FECIT 1773

III., 32½-in. HE AND HE ONLY AIMS ARIGHT WHO JOYNS
INDUSTRY WITH DELIGHT
THO^s JANAWAY FECIT 1773

- IV., 34½-in. WHEN FROM THE EARTH OUR NOTES REBOUND
THE HILLS AND VALLEYS ECCO ROUND
THO^s JANAWAY FECIT 1773
- V., 37½-in. THO^s JANAWAY FECIT 1773
- VI., 38½-in. THOMAS JANAWAY FECIT 1773
- VII., 42-in. THE RINGERS ART OUR GRATEFUL NOTES PRO-
LONG APOLLO LISTENS AND APROVES THE
SONG
THOMAS JANAWAY FECIT 1773
- VIII., 47½-in. JOSEPH SHIRLEY & IOHN MANN CHURCH
WARDENS 1773
THOMAS JANAWAY FECIT
- Sanctus, 24½-in. THOMAS JANAWAY FECIT 1777
- T. R. E. Item iiij greate bells suted in the steple, one sants bell and iij
lytle sacrying bells, one hand bell.

ST. JOHN EVANGELIST. 1 Bell.

Modern church (1880), presumably one bell of that date.

BROMLEY COMMON. HOLY TRINITY. 1 Bell.

I., 21½-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1841

BROMLEY. ST. MARY, PLAISTOW. 1 Bell.

Built 1863. Has probably one bell of that date.

BROMPTON (NEW). ST. MARK. 1 Bell.

A modern church, with doubtless one equally modern bell.

BROMPTON (OLD). HOLY TRINITY. 1 Bell.

I., 29-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1848

The Vicar, Canon D. Cooke, says: "We have no bells;" but as he puts the objective in the plural and not in the singular, I presume there is still one bell, as there was twenty years ago.

BROOK. ST. MARY. 3 Bells.

I., 28½-in. Blank.

II., 30-in. + ▢ + ▢

III., 32½-in. ioseph hatch made me 1612

T. R. E. "Three bells."

For mention of No. 2, see p. 39. The foundry-stamp is Fig. 22.

Death knell—tellers (3×3 for male, 3×2 for female) both at beginning and end. Bell tolled at funeral.

Sunday services—bells first rung, then one tolled, fifteen minutes each. Bell rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Rector, Rev. J. Philpott.

BROOKLAND.

ST. AUGUSTINE.

5 Bells.

I., $31\frac{1}{2}$ -in. IOHN * HODSON * MADE * MEE * 1685 ○ ❀ ○
I * EVE * W * CLARKE * CHVRCH * WAR-
DENS ❀

II., 33-in. Same.

III., 34-in. *Sit Omnia Domini Benedictum* ▽ ⊕ ▽ (Figs. 27, 26,
and 25).

IV., 36-in. IOHN * HODSON * MADE * MEE * 1685 ○ ❀ ○ ❀
IOHN * EVE * WILLIAM * CLARKE * WARD *
ENS ❀

V., 41-in. Same.

T. R. E. Item in the steple iiij small bells, and in the church one warning bell, one hand bell, and one sacring bell.

No. 3 bell by Henry Jordan. See p. 44.

Death knell—tellers (3×3 for male, 3×2 for female) both at beginning and end; toll for quarter of an hour, raise bell, then minute strokes for half an hour.

Funerals—knell after sunrise, bell tolled slowly for an hour, and the same again before funeral, and when leaving the church for the grave.

Marriage peals—rung both before and after wedding, and again in the evening.

Eight o'clock bell on Sunday mornings, "and when sermon" (2nd bell used).

For vestry meetings 2nd bell—"Call bell"—rung.

The wonderful wooden campanile, like three huge extinguishers one atop of the other, is well known. It is probably built of old ship-timber.

Best thanks to the Rev. W. Baldock, Vicar.

BROOMFIELD.

ST. MARGARET.

3 Bells.

I., 25½-in. Blank.

II., 26¾-in. *William Hatch made me* MB CW 1663

III., 28-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1879

The former tenor bore the date 1579, but no founder's name or stamp.

BUCKLAND BY DOVER.

ST. ANDREW.

3 Bells.

I., 21-in. 1754

II., 22-in. $\nabla \oplus \nabla$ (Figs. 27, 26, and 25).III., 25-in. I * S * C * W \clubsuit IH * ME * FECIT * 1683 *

No. 2 by Henry Jordan. See p. 44.

Death knell, twelve hours after death (but not at night); usual tellers 3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman. On day of funeral a knell is rung if paid for. Begins with age of deceased, and then same as passing bell.

Sunday services—all three rung for five minutes, then single bell for fifteen minutes.

Old year tolled out and new one rung in.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. T. Evans.

BUCKLAND BY FAVERSHAM.

1 Bell.

Church in ruins; only western end and part of south wall with a handsome Norman doorway remaining. The bell, however, is preserved at the farmhouse hard by. It is 17½ in. diameter, and bears only the date "1696."

BURHAM.

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

3 Bells.

I., 25-in. RICHARD PHELPS FECIT 1700

 II., 25½-in. \square RICHARD : DE : VVVMBIS
: ME : FECIT

III., 29-in. RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1734

No. 2 is an exceedingly interesting specimen of quite early fourteenth century work. It is "long waisted," and consequently, although according to its diameter it is placed second in the ring, it is deeper in tone than No. 3, and should really be considered as the tenor. See p. 9.

Passing bell rung immediately after death. Tellers (unusual) 3 × 3 for adults, 3 × 2 for children.

Bell tolled for half an hour before funeral.

Bells rung for service, "ringing in" for last ten minutes on one only.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Keith.

BURMARSH.

ALL SAINTS.

3 Bells.

I., 29-in. Blank.

II., 30-in. + IOHANNES ❖ EST ❖ DOMEN
❖ EIVS

III., 36-in. + OMEN Magdalene Campana Serit Melodie
□ ▽

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple.

I have not seen these bells myself, but Mr. Tyssen notes on the rubbings that Nos. 1 and 2 are apparently by the same founder.

The initial cross on No. 2 is Fig. 5, the stop Fig. 4.

The cross on No. 3 is Fig. 14, and the other stamps Figs. 18 and 17.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL. CHRISTCHURCH. 10 Bells, Clock

bell, and Curfew bell.

I., 31½-in. THOMAS MEARS LONDON FECIT A D 1802 PACE
REDDITA

II., 32-in. T POWYS D^N W WELFITT V D^N H RADCLIFFE T^R E
WALSBY R^R T MEARS FECIT 1802

III., 34-in. SAMU^L NORRIS GUL^S GOSTLING A M S K 1726
AD MDCCCLV

BENJ HARRISON A M THESAUR^O

H G AUSTIN ARCHIT^O

C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON

IV., 36-in. ▽ GVL-AYERST STB GVL EGERTON LLD JO-
HANNES GOSTLING AM SAM-KNIGHT 1726

V., 38-in. ▽ SAM-HOLCOMBE STP JOHN CLARK STP SK
1726 RB

VI., 40-in. DAVID WILKINS STP EDWARDUS WAKE STP SK 1726
AD MDCCCLV

BENJ HARRISON AM THESAUR^O

H G AUSTIN ARCHIT^O

C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON

- VII., 43½-in. ∇ IOHNNES GRANDORGE STP IOHNNES HAN-
COCKE STP SK 1727
- VIII., 46½-in. ∇ EDUARDUS TENISON STP HON—EDUARDUS
FINCH AM SK FECIT 1728
- IX., 51½-in. RADULPHUS BLOMER STP ELLAS SYDAL STP
SK FECIT 1726
- X., 57½-in. YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE YOUR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS
BE SOBER MERRY WISE & YOU'LL THE SAME POSSESS
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1778
- Clock Bell, 70-in. GULIELMO FRIEND STP DECANO LESTER & PACK OF
LONDON FECIT 1762 W^m CHAPMAN MOLDED ME
- “Bell Harry.” IOSEPH HATCH ME FECIT 1635

Of these the first ten constitute the “ring.” The Clock bell (Great Dunstan) is also used as a Death bell. “Bell Harry” is at the top of the centre tower, and is used to call to daily matins and evensong. It is also rung daily at 5.45 a.m. in summer, and 6.45 a.m. in winter, and at 8 p.m. These, without doubt, are survivals of the ancient morning and evening “Ave” bells—the latter also known as the Curfew or Ignitegium. Its other use is to notify the death of the Sovereign or the Archbishop of the province.

Many thanks for this information to Rev. P. W. Loosemore.

On the subject of the bells of the earliest successive Metropolitan cathedrals history is silent, until we come to that erected by Archbishop Lanfranc in 1070-77.

No doubt they had bells. With almost equal certainty we can conclude that they were in a detached campanile, after the Italian custom. Such a building did actually exist here on an ascertained spot to the south of the Cathedral as late as 1382, when it was destroyed by an earthquake. Whether the erection which then perished was the work of Saxon or Norman, or later times, is unknown; possibly it had been rebuilt more than once.

The cathedral built by Lanfranc, as above mentioned, was, as is well known, very considerably altered and enlarged, within thirty years, by two successive Priors—Ernulp and Conrad—and it is in connection with these two that we get the first positive mention of bells.

Prior Ernulp would seem, from the entry in *Anglia Sacra*, to have given one large bell—this bell was recast by his successor, Conrad, who added to it four smaller ones. Prior Wybert, some sixty years later, added a sixth of very large size, the entry concerning it being that he “Signum quoque magnum in clocario posuit, quod triginta duo homines ad sonandum trahunt.”

This entry is quite conclusive of the fact that the bell in question was not rung in our English fashion with a rope, but in the Continental manner by treading on a plank or planks fastened across the head stock. Thirty-two men hanging on to a bell-rope is clearly impossible. I think, too, we cannot doubt that Conrad's five, as well as Wybert's tenor, were all "in clocario"—in the campanile.

The next bell operations of which we have any note are those of Henry of Eastry (Prior 1285-1331), who in 1316 added to the other bells in the Campanile one dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr, which weighed 8,000 lbs. He bought other bells in that and the following year, of which I shall speak presently.

Of later additions to the campanile we have only one record. Prior Hathbrand (1339-70) placed "*duas magnas campanas in clocario, viz., Jesu et Dunstan*"—both dedications singularly appropriate, the Cathedral itself being dedicated to Our Blessed Lord, and St. Dunstan being not only Primate, but also, if chronicles are to be trusted, a bellfounder, if not actually *per se*, certainly *per alios*.

Hasted states (incorrectly) that these two bells were in the south-west tower. The worthy historian, no doubt, was ignorant of the fact that "*clocarius*" does not mean *clock* tower but *bell* tower, and confounded the old detached campanile with the comparatively modern south-west clock tower.

When the campanile fell from the shock of an earthquake in 1382, no doubt the bells were broken; but there is no record of the disposition of the metal. It is, however, I think, traceable.

We have now to transfer our interest in the subject to the Central or Angel Tower, first built by Archbishop Lanfranc. This does not seem to have been stocked with bells until the Priorate of Henry of Eastry before mentioned. He in 1317 bought three new bells and placed them in it. The largest is stated to have weighed 1,460 lbs., the middle one 1,210 lbs., and the smallest 1,124 lbs. They cost £65 9s., exclusive of the frame and hanging.

Archbishop Arundel gave a ring of four bells, whose weights are stated to have been

1,646 lbs.
2,272 „
3,646 „
7,188 „

respectively, and placed them in this tower. I own that I am rather suspicious as to this "gift," looking to the close coincidence of the date with that

of the destruction of the campanile, and am much inclined to surmise that the Archbishop merely paid for the casting, and that the metal used was that of the broken bells—Dunstan and his fellows.

Prior Thomas Chillenden (1391–1411) is stated to have given a bell, dedicated to the Blessed Trinity, which doubtless also found an abode in the Central Tower. The record of the benediction of the five bells is still preserved in the Registry at Lambeth, and is as follows :

Memo^{and} qđ Octavo die Mensis Aprilis Anno dñi Milimo CCCC^{mo} nono Reveren^{mus} in xpo pater & dñs dñs Thom^{as} dei grā Cantuarien Archiep^{us} tocius &c^a unxit benedixit & solempni^{us} consecrav^{it} quinq³ campanas novas in campanili Angelo^z ext^a chorum sue sancte Cantuarien ecclie. pendentes quas prius inibi appendi fecit et dicte sue ecclie predonavit et diversa nomina eisdem apposuit Prime videt^r maiori imposuit nomen Trinitatis Secunde nomen Marie Tercie nomen Gabrielis Archangeli Quarte nomen S^ci Blasij Ac quinte & minime nomen Johannis Evangeliste. Presentib⁵ tunc ibidem ven^{ab}ib^z & discretis viris Dño Johanni Wiker^yg Arch^{no} Cantuar Ma^gris Philippo Morgan vtriusq³ iuris Doctore ac Willmo Miltoñ Arch^{no} Buck & alijs cl^{ic}is & laicis in multitudine copiosa

It will be observed from this that our modern custom of reckoning a ring from the treble upwards did not apparently obtain in the fifteenth century, the certificate plainly mentioning the tenor as “No. 1.” This may, however, be owing to ignorance on the part of the Diocesan Registrar.

Quite at the close of the century the tower appears to have been re-built, and the five bells consecrated by Archbishop Arundel, and commonly known as the “Arundel Ring,” were removed thence to the north-western tower, which thenceforward bore the name of the Arundel Tower. Other bells, however, remained in the Angel Steeple, viz., Eastry’s three and two others, of whose casting no record seems to have been preserved. These five were confiscated by the Crown at the dissolution in 1540, and their metal sold. The Rev. N. Battely (*Cantuar^{ia} Sacra*, Part II., pp. 24, 25) gives the following curious information as to this sale : “From a Record communicated to me by my very good brother, Charles Battely, Esq., Keeper of the Records of the late Augmentation Office, I am informed that on the 5th of July, Anno 32 Henrici VIII., there was sold to Henry Crips, of Burchington, and Robert

St. Leger, of Feversham, certain Bell-Metal, containing twenty-four thousand, six hundredth, one quatern, twenty and one pounds in waight, being parcel of the five Bells late in the great Bellfrage of Christchurch in the City of *Canterbury*.'

There is some very curious mistake here, which I cannot solve. Hasted mentions the above sale (no doubt copying from Battely), and gives the weight as 24,646 lb. This, making the bells *average* nearly 5,000 lbs. apiece, is, I think, very much too large. I have carefully examined the Augmentation Office papers at the Record Office, but I cannot find the document above referred to, and must, therefore, leave the story half untold.

The Central Tower, now known as "Bell Harry" Tower, contains now only one bell—"Bell Harry"—which tradition affirms to have been the gift of Henry VIII., and to have been brought out of France. If this be correct—and the name given to it seems corroborative—it has been recast, as it now bears the date 1635.

We must now take up the story of the North-Western Tower, to which, so far as records serve us, the first donor of bells was Prior Henry of Eastry, in 1316. He placed therein four bells, three of which, weighing respectively 2,000, 2,200, and 2,400 lbs., were apparently intended to serve as a ring; the fourth, a smaller one weighing 756 lbs., being used only to summon the chapter. To this tower, as has already been mentioned, the five bells of the Arundel ring were removed. We have no record of any further changes or additions, but in 1726 the tower certainly contained six bells, and these were then taken down and recast into a peal of eight by Samuel Knight of London. They were, however, not replaced in the same tower, but shifted to the South-West or Chicheley Tower. The inscriptions, preserved by Hasted, on the old ring, show clearly that Eastry's five bells had been recast, probably more than once. They were as follows:

- I. Josephus Hatch me fecit 1635
- II. Josephus Hatch me fecit 1636
- III. TG, Prior, Sancte Thoura Ora Pro Nobis
- IV. ER. Robertus Mot me fecit 1585
- V. Joseph Hatch made me 1606
- VI. Beate Trinitati Campana Hec Sacra primo fusa 1408 secundo 1624
Josephus Hatch me fecit.

The inscription on the treble is suspiciously like that on "Bell Harry."

This brings us to the S.W. or Chicheley Tower. Until 1726 it does not seem ever to have held but one bell—Great Dunstan—first given by Prior

Molash in 1430, and stated to have weighed 8,105 lbs. Battely gives the following account of its dedication :

"Magna Campana Cant., A.D. 1459, 14 Die Mensis Junii. Dominus Richardus Episc. Roffens. benedixit magnam campanam in Navi Ecclesie in honore S. Dunstani Archiepisc. cum magna solemnitate. Prior istius Ecclesie erat ibidem revestitus in Pontificalibus. Ista Campana facta fuit Londini Anno 1430 Tempore Domini Wilhelmi Molass."

Here again the record is not quite so trustworthy as might be wished. In the first place it is rather curious that a bell should have to wait twenty-nine years for its dedication ; and secondly, there was no Richard Bishop of Rochester at or about the period mentioned.

We may, however, accept the fact of the gift of the bell by Prior Molash. It was evidently intended to replace Prior Hathbrand's "Dunstan" destroyed in the fall of the campanile. Whether it survived until 1758 is unknown ; but in that year it or its successor was cracked in an attempt to toll it by striking with a hammer. A futile attempt to mend the crack with solder was made—of course to no purpose—and it was eventually recast within the precincts in 1762 ; an operation which led to the introduction of the Mears family to the bell-founding trade. William Chapman, then foreman to and afterwards partner with Lester and Pack, of London, being sent down to do the work, noticed a youth intensely interested in the performance, and offered to take him to London and teach him the business ; the offer was accepted, and the youth, William Mears, eventually succeeded to the sole ownership of the Whitechapel Foundry, first established by Robert Mot, who was probably, as I have shown elsewhere, also a native of Canterbury.

The Mears are an old Canterbury family, and it is fitting that in dealing with the bells of the Metropolitan Cathedral, their name should be mentioned. The last of them, Mr. John Mears, has lately passed away at a good old age, and I am heartily glad to place on record here the many thanks I owe him for help in collecting the materials for this book.

CANTERBURY.

ALL SAINTS.

1 Bell.

I., 30-in. ioseph hatch made me 1627

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steeple and a waggerell bell.

In 1757-8, according to Mr. Faussett, there were here "three small bells

Death knell rung—usual tellers, 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female.
Thanks to Rector, Rev. J. Parmiter.

5 Bells.

- | | | | | | |
|--------|---|-----|-------------|------|-----|
| 1705 | paid nath butler for mending ye bells | ... | ... | 13s. | 0d. |
| 1706-7 | pd Nath Butler for making of a new wheel for
the Bell and new hanging for the Bell | ... | 1 <i>l.</i> | 3s. | 0d. |
| 1708 | pd John Eastman for four new Bellropes | ... | ... | 16s. | 6d. |
| 1716 | Bell ropes and bell-ringing cost 32s. | | | | |

1722	Bell ringing paid for to the tune of £2 5s.		
	A set of Bell Roops and put in them uop ...	17s.	0d.
1725-6	Payd M ^r Jarman for mending the claper of one of the Bells	4s.	2d.
1727	Various payments for work about the bells.		
1728	The "dis Bors Ments of John Qusted."		
	for Ringing for King geore in ter sesion* ...	5s.	0d.
	for Ringing one King george Croune Asyone ...	5s.	0d.
	for Ringing one ye one ye prinse of whale Birthday	5s.	0d.
	for wringing one ye Queens Beth day	5s.	0d.
1729	March 9, at a vestry for A new bell	8s.	6d.
	explained by the following minute :		

March ye 9, 1729. At a vestry holden in ye Parish Church of Holy Cross Westgat in Canterbury By ye parishoners it was unanimously agreed That ye Church Wardens have a sess Granted at ye Rate of one Shilling In ye pound to buy a new bell That is to be a treble bell to make ye ring better & ye said bell Is not to Cost a bove twenty one pounds Allowed by us (Thirteen signatures follow.)

Canterbury Nov. 16, 1730. Agreed at A vestry that ye Churchwarden shall Be Allowed ye money he shall Disburst on acct of ye New wheele & ironwarke That is to be put to ye new bell & other Charges he Shall be at in Repareing ye fram & wheels of ye other bells out of ye next sess That shall be granted.

1730	Nov. 16	pd M ^r Eastman for a tennet rope ...	5s.	0d.
		Spent on will Baker for Buying ye Mettle for ye bell	1s.	6d.
	Nov. 19	Spent on ye bell founder	1s.	3d.
		Spt on ye bell founder & potter†	1s.	6d.
	Nov. 21	Spent at Casting ye bell	2s.	7d.
		A hors & Cart & men to help ye bell home ...	4s.	6d.
		Lowance at M ^r Clarks for potter†	1s.	7d.
		Paid Knight for ye bell	2 1/2 l.	0s. 0d.
		At parkers for lowance for fisher and potter ...	1s.	10 1/2 d.
		Spent at Danll: parkers for getting ye bell up ye steeple... ..	3s.	6d.

* Accession.

† Potter was the bell-hanger.

Knight's boy	...	...	...	...	...	6 <i>d.</i>
Paid Knight for Casting All ye braces for ye						
bells	...	...	...	...	1 <i>li.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i>	
Jan. 11 Potters bill for changing ye bells	...	...	...	...	2 <i>li.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	
M ^r Jarman for ironwork	...	...	...	...	1 <i>li.</i> 19 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>	
Paid ye Judge of ye Court for signing ye Sess						
for ye bell	...	...	...	...	1 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>	

In 1731, "weging ye bell and Spiles for ye new bells" cost 3*s.* 7*d.* Seven new bell ropes were also paid for this year.

This newly added treble did not last very long; perhaps the "mettle" provided by the churchwardens was of indifferent quality. It had to be recast in 1739, but under what precise circumstances is unknown, as the parish books for that year are wanting. The lettering, however, shows it to have been cast by Thomas Lester, of the Whitechapel Foundry.

CANTERBURY.

ST. ALPHEGE.

3 Bells.

I., 29 in. HENRY TOMLIN GEORGE MAY CH : WARDENS
I H MADE ME 1692

II., 31-in. Blank.

III., 34-in. *ioseph hatched made me* ☉ 1616

T. R. E. Item one bell for the dede peple

Item in the Steple iiij bells and a wagerell bell

ST. ANDREW.

1 Bell.

I., 31½-in. *Robertus + mot + me + fecit + 1597* ☉

Mr. Faussett mentions here four bells in 1757-8, inscribed as follows :

I. William Hawker Nathaniel Hulse 1699

II. and III. No inscription.

IV. Robertus Mott me fecit Anno 1576.

The worthy antiquary's information is corroborated, as regards the tenor, by the following extracts from the parish accounts, which have been kindly furnished by Mr. J. Meadows Cowper :

1576	It. for casting of the greate bell	...	...	lix <i>s.</i>
	It. for carring of the said bell to and from the			
	place	...	...	xij <i>d.</i>

	It. for a new stocke for the said bell	xij <i>d</i> .
	It. for ij dais & a halfe of worke of towe car- pinters & for bringing & carryeng of a gynn & lathers to hang the said bell	vjs.
1598	Item payed vnto Chesman for waying the two Bells	xij <i>d</i> .
	Item payed for bread and bere when the bell was hounge vp to those that did help and for the hanging vp of the bell	xij <i>d</i> .
	Item payed for thre Baldrokes for the bells ...	ij <i>s</i> . vj <i>d</i> .
	Item payed to master Boddell for his worke ...	vjs. vj <i>d</i> .
	Item payed vnto Daves the Smyth for Iorn for the Bells and the charges of the Church ...	xx <i>s</i> .
	Item payed more to the Belfunder for Tewn- ing of the Bells	ij <i>s</i> .
	Item payed vnto Ledes for two Brasse peces to Lay vnder the Bells	vs. iiij <i>d</i> .
	Item payed for a new Bell waying fyve hundred & halfe hundred and xiiij <i>l</i> . at viij <i>d</i> . thepound xxj <i>l</i> .	
	Item payed vnto Yeoman Coxson & Daves for takyng downe the Bell	iijs.
	Item payed to Daves the smyth for happes hookes & pynes	vj <i>d</i> .

This new bell was possibly the one now hanging ; but I am by no means sure ; the weight paid for does not quite correspond with the presumed weight of the present bell, judging from its diameter. And, again, I do not see how Mr. Faussett could possibly have missed the inscription. I am more inclined to believe the present bell to have come from St. Mary Bredman. That church has lost two bells somehow, and its sole remaining one is by R. Mot, and dated 1597.

CANTERBURY.

ST. DUNSTAN.

6 Bells.

- I., 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. THIS TREBLE WAS ADDID TO THIS PEAL TO MAKE THEM SIX
BY VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION IN 1777. MEARS & C^o
LONDON FECIT
- II., 29-in. ANTHO ROOP ARM IAC PEMY VIC SPENCER
ioseph hatch made me 1629 W SANDYE OECONO-
MICIS

- III., 32-in. THIS BELL WAS RECAST BY VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION 1777
MEARS & C^o LONDON FECIT
- IV., 35-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME ☉ 1605
IF CW
- V., 40-in. ∪ (Fig. 2) + **AUG: MARIA: GRACIA**
PLENA: DON: TECT
- VI., 45-in. HENREY LANMAN IOHN HACKTNO CW T P
M 1676

In 1758 there were only five bells, and the then 2nd (present 3rd) was inscribed :

Thomas Palmar made me 1660. Tho Simpson Ch : Warden.

For account of No. 5 see p. 11.

Passing bell rung “for decent people” an hour after death—“some leave it later.” This is a little mysterious, but it comes on the authority of the sexton. I take it that he means that he does not reckon people “decent” unless they send him notice at once. There may be in this an unconscious reminiscence of the time when the Passing bell was rung when soul and body were actually parting.

Tellers : For man 3 × 3, for woman 3 × 2, for child 3 × 2 on a smaller bell.

Bells chimed for services.

Peals on the great Church festivals, at confirmations, and some other special occasions.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. J. Meadows Cowper for the following extracts from the parish accounts, which are extant from an unusually early period :

1485	Item for a rope for the gret bell	...	...	viijs.
	It. for a rope for the wakerell	...	...	iijs.
	It. payde to John Long for bawderyks	...	...	xjs.
	Item for ryngyng ij pryncypall dayes	...	...	iiij.
	It. payd for the reparacyons of the bells	...	iijs.	x.
	It. spent at Wyllyam Sprotts when the clappers			
	were mendyd	...	...	js.

The account for this year begins thus :

This is the acompte of Wyllyam Balle and John
Thomas Church Wardeyns of Seynt Don-
stonys AōD mccccclxxxv

The "reseyts" amount to *vli. xixs. xd. ob.*

The "costs & payments & expensis" come to
vji. xijs. iijd.

And the account concludes with the following note, handing down to posterity for 400 years the fact that worthy John Thomas was very careful of No. 1 :

"So rest in deb. to John Thomas all thyngs clerely acomptyd & alowyd the day & yere aboue sayde xijs. iij*d.* *ob.* therefore he keepyng a chalys in plegge," &c.

For the next four years the accounts are only summarized. No details are given.

1490	Inprimis payde to Wyllyam Sprotte for schet- tyng of the mydyldyll bell claper	<i>viiij<i>d.</i></i>
	It. payde to Ingram for a newe rope to the gret bell	<i>ix<i>d.</i></i>
	It. payde to Long for iij bawdryks makyng & mendyng	<i>xd.</i>
	Item paid to the ryngers Holy Thursday & Corpus Xi day	<i>iiij<i>d.</i></i>
	It. payde to Ingram for makyng clene of the stepyll	<i>iiij<i>d.</i></i>
1491	Item payde to the ryngers on Holy Thursday...	<i>ij<i>d.</i></i>
1492	Itm. payde to the ryngers iij dayes	<i>vj<i>d.</i></i>
	Item payde to Ingram for a new rope	<i>xj<i>d.</i></i>
	It. payde to Wyllyam Sprotte for mendyng of a claper	<i>xiiij<i>d.</i></i>
	Itm. payde to Ingram for a rope	<i>xd.</i>
	Item payde to Long for ij bawdrykes... ..	<i>xij<i>d.</i></i>
	Inprimis for makyng of new belclappers & mendyng of one	<i>xiijs. iiij<i>d.</i></i>
	It. payde for iiij new belropis Sm	<i>iiijs. iij<i>d.</i></i>
	It. payde for iij new bawdryks & mendyng ...	<i>xvj<i>d.</i></i>
	Item payde for v boxis to the belfry	<i>xd.</i>
	Item payde on Corpus $\frac{i}{x}$ day & Holy Thurs- day to the ryngers for ij yeres	<i>xij<i>d.</i></i>

1500	"Reseyts"		
	Item of the Parysshyns to the making of the wakeringbell	xxij <i>℥</i> .	
	Payments		
	Item payde to the ryngers for Holy Thursday & Corpus $\frac{i}{x}$ day for ij yerres	ij <i>s.</i>	viiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item payed to John Long for mendyng of iij bawdryks		v <i>℥</i> .
	Item payde to Roger Hart for mendyng of the gret bell whele & makyng of ij branchis of iron to the corteysns of the Hyghe Awter ...	xv <i>℥</i> .	xij <i>℥</i> .
	Item payde for a rope to the lytyll bell ...		xij <i>℥</i> .
	Item payde for a corde to amende the olde rope of the wakerrell		ij <i>℥</i> .
	Item payde for a new rope to the same ...		iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item payde to Rychard Kerner for new makyng of the same belle	ii <i>s.</i>	viiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item payde on Holy Thursday to the ryngers & brekefast		viiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item payde for a rope to the gret bell ...		xiiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item payde on Corpus Christi day		viiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item payde for a bawdryk to the ij bell ...		viiij <i>℥</i> .
1506-7 (?)	Item paid to Thomas Rowe and his man sokyng and hangyng of the bellys	v <i>℥s.</i>	
	Item for iij new bawderyk pro le pece viij <i>℥</i> . Sm	ij <i>s.</i>	
	Item for mendyng of a bawderyk		j <i>℥</i> .
	Item for a bokyll for a bawderyk		j <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid to John Clere Smyth for makyng of iij newe clapperys... ..	ix <i>s.</i>	x <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid to Lawrence Rolfe smyth for certeyn ^o irnes for the stoke of the bellys	ii <i>s.</i>	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid to Thomas Brooke and Henry Symson for their labour aboute the bellys ...	v <i>℥s.</i>	
	Item for iij new belle ropys	ii <i>s.</i>	j <i>℥</i> .
	Item for lyne for the wakerell belle		v <i>℥</i> .
	Item for a newe wakerell belle	v <i>℥s.</i>	viiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item for hangyng of the same belle and for irnes and nailez therto		x <i>℥</i> .

	Item paied to the belfounder for castyng of ij newe bellys and for newe metyll to the same bellys... .. vij <i>℥</i> . ijs.
	Item for the belle ryngarys and the standard berar one Ascencon Day and Corpus Xpi day in expencys for iij yere... .. ijs. vjd.
	Item paid for a newe whele for the fore bell... .. iijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
	Item for grese and sope for the bellys ... ijd.
	Item resceyvid in metill gadered of the parysshe and of other parysshes xxiijs.
1508-14	Item for a rope former (sic) belle vjd.
	Item for mendyng of the whele of the same belle vij <i>d</i> . ob.
	Item for a rope for the wacaryng belle ... iiij <i>d</i> .
	Item for plates & brodde to the lyttyl belle ... iiij <i>d</i> .
	Item to belle rynggeris & berer of baners at Corpus Xpi day at vj severall tymes ... ijs.
	Item for a bawdryk vij <i>d</i> .
	Item for rynggaris & berers of baners at iiij tymes... .. ijs.
	Item for an other bawdrik & a bokyll ... viij <i>d</i> .
1522-24	Item to Laurance Hunton to Codnam for mendyng of the bellstoke viij <i>d</i> .
	Item for calves heddis for the ryngars for ij yeres xiiij <i>d</i> .
	Item for a new baudryk & mendyng ij olde baudrykis ix <i>d</i> .
	Item for iij newe bell ropys for all the bellis... ijs. iiij <i>d</i> . ob.
	Item for a rope for wakerell v <i>d</i> .
1524-5	Item for a calues hede flaggis and thredde at Corpus xpi day for ryngaris vij <i>d</i> .
	Item for ij ropes for eches for the bell ropys... ijd.
	Item to J. Hochyn for mendyng the bell wheles Item for smalle naylles for the seid wheles ... xx <i>d</i> .
	Item to W. Rychard for mendyng the grete bell clapper ijs. ijd.
	Item to hym (Mathew lokear) for a key for the vpper stepyll dore iiij <i>d</i> .

	Item to Mathew lokear for mendyng the second bell clapper	xxd.
1525-6	Item for a bellrope weyng vij ld di price ...	ixd. ob.
	Item for calves hede flaggis & thredde apon Corpus xpi day	vjd.
1526-8	Item for ij calves hedes and ryngers for bothe the seid yeres	xijd.
	Item to William Richards smyth of olde dette for amending of a belle claper	ijs.
	Item to M ^r Vicary for a rope to the wakerell	viijd.
	Item for ij truses for the bellis	ijd.
1529-31	Item rec of Wynston for the bell clapper ...	ijs.
	Item payd for the grete bell clapper	vjs.
	Item payd for the myddle bel clapper ...	iijs. iiijd.
	Item payd for mendyng of the lyttle bell clapper	iijs. iiijd.
	Item payd for mendyng of a clapper by M ^r Sygnetis tyme	ijs.
	Item for hangyng of the bells	iiijs.
	Item for makyng of a new sterop to the bells and naylyng of them	xijd.
	Item for ij calves heds	viijd.
	Item in brede and drynk	iiijd.
	Item for iij bell ropes	iijs.
	Item for mendyng of the belwhele	xd.
1532-3	Item for a pllorepe* to one of the bellis ...	jd.
	Item for a eche† to the gret bell	jd. ob.
	Item for a new gogyne to ye lityll bell had of Panton	vjd. ob.
	Item for a day & a haufe workyng a bowte the fore bell payde to John Hochyn	vijd.
	Item for a bande of yeron	ijd.
	Item for drynke	jd.
	Item payde to John Hochyn for mendyng the gret bell	vijd.

* Sic. Query a pullrope, to ring the bell by "clocking," i.e., moving the clapper instead of the bell.

† An additional piece of rope spliced into the old to "cke" it out.

	Item payd to Iarans Houton for the same workyng	vjd.
	Item for viij wegies to the gret bell	iiijd.
	Item for brods and naylls to ye gret bell	jd.
	Item for drynke to the carpyntre	ob.
	Item for brods to the lytyll bell	jd.
	Item for a newe bawderyke for the myddyll bell and mendyng of a nother	iijd.
1538-9	Fyrst payed for one bell rope	viijd.
	It. to Carpenter the smith for mendyng of a claj of a bell	xiiijd.
	It. for the ryngers brekefast flaggs & threde on Corpus xi day	vjd.
	It. payed to Maxstede for mendyng of the frame of the bells at ij tymes	iijs. viijd.
	It. to Carpenter for iren werk of the same	xiiijd.
1539-41	Itm. for mendyng of a bawdryke	ijd.
	Itm. for a bellrope	viijd.
	Itm. payed to the Ryngers	iiijd.
	Itm. payed to Rynggeres another tyme	iiijd.
	Itm. another tyme to rynggeres	ijd.
1540-44	Item payd to William Fuller for a bell roope	xiijd.
	Item to stocke for ij bell roopes	xxijd.
	Item to Watson for mendyng of the belles	ijs.
	Item payd on Corpus xpi Daye for the ryngers brekefaste	vjd.
1544-5	Inprimis payd for the ryngers brekefaste on Corpus Christi daye for iij yeris	ijs.
	Item to Wyllyam Rychard for yerone worke to trowse the bellis	xijd.
	Item for my nowne expensc at ye trussyng of ye bellis	ijd. ob.
	Item payd for ye grett bell rope	xjd.
	Item payde for ye wakerell rope	vd.
	Item for a sterope for ye fore bell	vjd.
1545-6	Item In primis for iij bell ropis	iijs. vd.
	Item payde to y ^e Ryngeris y ^t same day (Corpus Christi)	ijd.

1547-8	Item payd to the Ryngerys that same day (Corpus Christi)	iiij <i>d.</i>
1548-50	Item for a wagherell rope	xiiij <i>d.</i>
	Item for a rope for the fyrst bell	xv <i>d.</i>
	Item for a rope for the second bell	xviiij <i>d.</i>
	Item for a rope for the thyrde bell	ij <i>s.</i>
	Item payed to Wynston for a new bawldryke and mendyng of an olde	xiiij <i>d.</i>
1557-8	Itm. payed for a bell rope for the first bell ...	xv <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payed to Rychard Chamberlayne Smyth for mendyng of the irens & brodds for the sayd bell	xv <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payed to the Carpenter for mendyng of the frame & hangyng of the same bell ...	iiij <i>s.</i> viij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for newe castyng of the breses of the sayd bell	ij <i>s.</i>
1566	An Inventory dated this year gives : More in the steapele iij great belles forneshed one (wakrell bell) ij small peases of tember wyth holes in them prepared for a wynch.	
1566-9	Item receyued of Rychard Ames for a oulde broken bellerope	iiij <i>d.</i>
1567	Item payed for nayles for the wacrell bell-frame	iiij <i>d. ob.</i>
	Item payed to good man Begelle carpenter for makeynge of a bell wheale and mynde- ynge of the bellis frames	xj <i>s.</i> ij <i>d.</i>
	Item payed to Larence Kenelle for jerne worke about the frames of the belles	xiiij <i>d.</i>
1568	Item payed to Rychard Pateson clarke for takenge downe the w'kerelle belle and hange- gyng of hyr in the stepelle... ..	vj <i>d.</i>
	Item payed to Rychard Pateson for takeynge of the stocke of the fore bylle and hange- ynge of hyr up agayne for hym and hys company	viiij <i>d.</i>

The words wakrell bell have had a pen drawn through them, why is not clear, as from later entries it will be seen that the wakrell bell was certainly in existence.

	Item payed to Larance Kenelle for nayles and ieyrne worke aboute the sayed belle ...	xij <i>d.</i>
	Item payed to Tymothy Taylor for a newe rope for the greate belle and for myndynge the other bell ropes	ij <i>s.</i> viij <i>d.</i>
1569	Item payed to Wyllyan Baker for mendeynge of the baderecke for the great belle ...	iiij <i>d.</i>
1570	Payed for a haulter for to mende the mydelle belle rope	j <i>d.</i>
	Item for a bell rope	xij <i>d.</i>
	Item for a new bawderyck for the lytell bell ...	xij <i>d.</i>
1572	Item payed for a new bell rope	xxij <i>d.</i>
	Item for a wackerall rope	x <i>d.</i> ob.
1573-4	Item geven the ringers vppon the 17 of of (sic) Novembre (Accession day)	ij <i>s.</i> ij <i>d.</i>
1575	Item for a rope for a bell	xviiij <i>d.</i>
	Item for the ringing at the Feast of the Navytye of our Ladye	iiij <i>d.</i>
	The baderyck of the bell	xiiij <i>d.</i>
1576	Item for ij bell ropes	vs. iiij <i>d.</i>
	Item grease for the bells	iiij <i>d.</i>
1579-80	Item for my selfe and my man for one dayes worke aboute the bels	xxij <i>d.</i>
	Item for grease for the bels	j <i>d.</i>
	Item payde the clarke for the ringerse ...	xij <i>d.</i>
	Item layd oute for a balderyke for the lytell bele	xij <i>d.</i>
1580	Item payd John Stone carpenter of Harbol- doun and his ij men for on dayse worke aboute the bels	ij <i>s.</i>
	Item for braddes about the work v ^d and for grease ij ^d .	
	Item payd to the clarke for ringerse	x <i>d.</i>
	Item for a balderyke mending	ix <i>d.</i>

The entries for 1522-31 inclusive are singularly curious. It would seem that the ringers' services generally were voluntary and gratuitous, except on Holy Thursday and Corpus Christi Day. For these two days they seem to

have been paid, and on the latter of them to have been regaled annually on *calves' heads*. This is one of the most curious local bell-customs I have ever met with, and I should be glad if anyone could throw any light on its meaning or origin. Were calves' heads considered an especial dainty in the first half of the sixteenth century? Canterbury brawn is world renowned; but I believe it comes from the head of a pig, not of a calf.

Best thanks to the Rev. J. G. Hoare, Vicar.

CANTERBURY.

ST. GEORGE.

4 and a Clock bell.

I., 31-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME 1627

▽ (Fig. 2)

▽

II., 33-in. + SATE GEORGI ORA PRO NOBIS

III., 37-in. THOMAS DVNKIN WILLIAM KILCHELL C W
THOMAS PALMAR MADE MEE 1664

IV., 42-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1623

Clock bell. Same.

For mention of No. 2, see p. 11.

Hasted notes here, in his day, four bells, and one formerly in the turret. This last is, of course, the present Clock bell. It apparently had another use in bygone days. There is an entry in the city accounts, under date 1586, of an annual stipend of £1 6s. 8d. to be paid to a person, who shall every morning at 4 o'clock ring the great bell in "St. George's steeple for one quarter of an hour." This was clearly, prior to the Reformation, the morning "Ave bell"—continued, or, perhaps, re-established on account of its secular utility.

Death knell, according to Rector, rung thrice—after death, on morning of funeral, and at time of burial.

A bell is rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to the Rector, the Rev. T. F. Dixon.

ST. MARGARET.

3 Bells.

I., 27-in. BY ♦ ME ♦ THOMAS ♦ HATCH ♦ T ♦ M ♦ C ♦ W ▽ 1599

II., 30-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1625 N N

III., 33-in. Same. D E

T. R. E. Item iij bells and the waggerell bell in the steeple.

The treble is badly split and quite useless. There is a crowned rose upon it under the date.

Apparently no local uses.

CANTERBURY. ST. GREGORY THE GREAT. 3 Bells.
Modern church and equally modern bells.

ST. MARTIN. 3 Bells.
I., 25½-in. Blank.
II., 30-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1829
III., 34-in. + (Fig. 5A) Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis + (Fig. 1.)
For account of tenor, see p 34.
T. R. E. Item iij bells and one wagerell bell in the steple.
In 1758 the 2nd bell bore :

John Palmar Thomas Palmar made me 1641

Death knell as soon as notice is received. Bell tolled for fifteen minutes, then tellers—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman. This is repeated on the morning of the funeral, and a bell is tolled while the corpse is being carried through the parish.

Bells chimed for services.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to the Rev. L. E. Goodwin.

ST. MARY BREDIN. 3 Bells.
I., 19-in. THOMAS FRANCIS CH : WARDEN 1711 R : PHELPS
FECIT
II., 21½-in. + (Fig. 29) MA RI A
III., 22-in. + (Fig. 29) TE : DE V : PA VO A M V S :
Ihph

T. R. E. Item iij bells and the wagerell bell in the steple.

For account of the two larger of these, see p. 47.

ST. MARY BREDMAN. 1 Bell, formerly 3.
I., 24-in. + 1 + 5 + 9 + 7 +
This is by Robert Mot, of Whitechapel.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE. Formerly 3 Bells.
I., 28½-in. ioseph hatch made me 1616
II., 30½-in. + Sancte Petre Ora Pro Nobis + I O S
III., 32-in. + Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis + ▽ (Fig. 19)

I am doubtful as to what crosses there were on No. 2, the inscription was very much corroded and the rubbing consequently far from distinct. There is no rubbing of No. 3, but I surmise the crosses to be Figs. 5 and 20.

Church pulled down in 1871 and bells sold—only the tower left standing.

ST. MARY NORTHGATE.

4 Bells.

- I., 26-in. ioseph hatch made me ☉ 1623
 II., 28½-in. ioseph hatch made me 1616
 III., 31-in. ioseph hatch made me ☉ 1623 WILLIAM CRIPPIA CW
 IV., 34½-in. T MEARS OF LONDON WM MUTTON I B MIETTE CHURCH
 WARDENS 1813

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple with a waggerell bell.

In 1758 the tenor was inscribed :

Joseph Hatch made me 1623.

ST. MILDRED.

1 Bell.

- I., 29-in. RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1711

“Uses” same as at All Saints’ Church.

T. R. E. Item iijj bells in the steple and the wakerell bell.

Mr. Bryan Faussett’s note of 1758 gives here “5 bells thus inscribed : I. and II., Richard Phelps made me 1711 ; III., no inscription ; IV., Joseph Hatch me fecit 1622 ; V., Ihs have Marse on the Sowles of Thomas Wood and Margarete his wyfe and the following coat and our Saviour figured to the waist.”

A drawing of the arms is given, and on this the late Mr. Godfrey Faussett makes the following remarks : “There was a monument to this couple preserved by Weever in this church, in a note to w^h my great-grandfather says, ‘See their coat on the 5th Bell, with this date MCCCCXXXVI,’ but he does not mention the date in his account of the bell. ‘Margarete his wyfe’ was daughter of John Moyle, and these are the arms of Moyle impaled by Wood, each quartering some other coat :



"The Blazonry is: 1. Ar. a fess raguly betwⁿ 3 fl. de lis or, for Wood.

2. —————

3. Gu. a mule passant ar., a cinque foil ar. in chief for Moyle.

4. (As I find from other shields of Moyle and Finch.)
Ar. a saltier sa. between 4 cinque foils of the 2nd.

"I can find no name given to this shield anywhere, but I feel inclined to hazard a conjecture that it may be Jerdan or Jurdayn, a monument at Eastwell making a Sir Tho^s Moyle husband of a Katheryne Jurdayn, and it being somewhat similar to the arms of that name.—T. G. F."

This bell was doubtless by William Oldfeild (see p. 59).

CANTERBURY.

ST. PAUL.

3 Bells.

I., 26-in. EDWARD BACKER IOHN WILLIAMES C W P P
THOMAS PALMAR MADE MEE 1661

II., 28½-in. EDWARDE BAKER IOHN WILLIAMES C W THOMAS
PALMAR MADE MEE 1661

III., 32-in. ✠ (Fig. 10) Eternis Annis Resonet Campana
Iohannis ∇ (Fig. 6)

T. R. E. Item iij bells and a wagerell bell—a bell for the Clok.

Item ij bells to bere before peple to buryng.

For mention of tenor see p. 27.

Local uses same as at St. Martin's Church.

ST. PETER.

3 Bells.

I., 30-in. IOHN LEE SENIOR AND WILLIAM BALDVOKE
CHVRCH WARDENS 1637
IOHN PALMAR MADE MEE

∇ (Fig. 6)

∇

II., 34-in. + (Fig. 10) Iohannes Cristi Kare Dignare Pro
∇

Obis Orare

∇ (Fig. 2)

III., 37-in. + SAUDIA MARIA ORA
PRO VOBIS

For mention of the two larger bells, see pp. 11 and 27.

Local uses same as at Holy Cross, Westgate.

In 1538 the good local folks appear to have gone in strongly for the new views, for we find the Grand Jury presenting William Sandford, parson of this church, "for maliciously tolling the Avie bell in the said church after the evening song done, with a view to set up again the Bishop of Rome."

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL.

1 Bell.

Stated by the late Mr. John Mears to be a bell "of no interest."

T. R. E. Item thre bells in the Steple.

Item syx lityll bells sometyme called Sacryng bells.

Only one left in Mr. Bryan Faussett's time—1758.

EASTERIDGE HOSPITAL.

No Bell.

T. R. E. Item a buryall bell and a small bell.

Item ij bells in the belfrey.

POOR PRIEST'S HOSPITAL.

1 Bell.

Bell inaccessible, but as the place has been desecrated for very many years, and the bell used for the clock, it may very possibly be a modern one, supplied when the place was the City police-station.

CAPEL.

ST. THOMAS.

1 Bell.

I., 27½-in. ♣ IOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♣ 1670 ♣ C H ♣

T. R. E. Item in the Stepyll ij small bells.

CAPEL LE FERNE.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I., 25-in. Blank.

CHALK.

ST. MARY.

3 Bells.

I., 28-in. 1634

II., 29-in. × (Fig. 1) XPE : PIE : FLOS : MARIE

III., 32-in. IOHN ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1634

For mention of No. 2 see p 10.

Death knell "according to custom." Ringing for service, ditto.

Thanks to the Rev. W. Joynes, Vicar.

CHALLOCK.

SS. COSMAS AND DAMIAN.

4 Bells.

I., 31-in. IOHN ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1634

II., 34-in. IOHN WAYLETT MADE ME 1724

III., 37-in. ♦ STEPHANVS ♦ SWAN ♦ ME ♦ FECIT ♦ 1614 ♦

IV., 41½-in. HENRY ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME 1640

T. R. E. "Fower bells in the Steple."

Death knell as soon as notice is received. Tellers— 3×3 (males) or 3×2 (females). On day of funeral, bell tolled before service and while body is carried to the grave.

Bells rung for services.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Ringin' formerly on 5th November, now (happily) discontinued.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. Julian Pratt.

CHARING.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

6 Bells.

I., 28-in.	{	JOHN TAYLOR & C ^o LOUGHBOROUGH 1878
II., 30-in.		
III., 32-in.		
IV., 33-in.		
V., 37-in.		
VI., 41-in.		

Weights: cwt. qr. lb.

5	2	0
6	1	12
7	1	4
7	3	2
10	1	0
13	0	15

T. R. E. Item fower bells in the steeple and a sauncts bell.

Item ij handbells.

Death knell rung as soon as notice is given.

Funerals: Bell tolled before 8 a.m. and at the funeral.

Bells rung or chimed for service.

Tenor rung for vestry meetings.

The four bells and sanctus (the latter doubtless hung in the opening above the chancel arch) probably remained until 1590, when, according to the diary of a parishioner, "The Parish Church of Charing was burnt upon Tuesday, the 4th of August, and the bells in the steeple melted with the extremity of the fire. Nothing of the church was left but the bare walls, except the floor over the porch and the floor over the turret, where the weathercock doth stand. The fire chanced by means of a birding-piece, discharged by one Mr. Dios, which fired in the shingels, the day being extreem hot, and the same shingels very dry." From Weever we learn that this birding-piece was discharged at a pigeon then upon the church.

The single bell, which was superseded by the present ring, bore the date 1608, and was probably by Joseph Hatch. A local distich, alluding to this bell, ran as follows :

“ Dirty Charing lies in a hole,
It has but one bell and that was stole.”

A rhyme which is found in many other places where the bell is a “singleton.” In the present case, however, it is essentially libellous, as Charing lies on the slope of the North Downs, more than 300 feet above the sea, and the necessity of finding funds for the re-building of the fire-ruined church is quite sufficient to account for the paucity of bell furniture. Of course the bell was not “conveyed,” but gotten honestly. The good folks of Charing were quite unacquainted with the Latin adage :

Rem facias, rem,
Si possis recte, sed non quocunque modo, rem.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. A. Starey.

CHARING HEATH. HOLY TRINITY. 1 Bell.

A modern church, with presumably one modern bell.

CHARLTON. ST. LUKE. 3 and a Sanctus Bell.

I., 22½-in. ABRHAM ♠ WHELOR ♠ CHVRCH ♠ WARDEN C H ♠
MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1685

II., 24½-in. CHRISTOPHER ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1685 ♠
ABRM ♠ WHELOR ♠ C ♠ WARDEN

III., 28-in. JOSEPH COOPER FARMER FLOYD CHURCH WARDENS 1818
T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT

Sanctus, 14¼ in. R : PHELPS FECIT 1713

T. R. E. Item iij bells of bellmettell hangyng in the steple there.

Item j saints bell hangyng in the saide steple.

Hasted states that Sir Adam Newton's trustees (*temp.* James I.) gave a new ring of bells to this church.

ST. PAUL. 1 Bell.

I., 35-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON
TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND IN HONOUR OF SAINT PAUL

1867

CHARLTON. ST. THOMAS. 1 Bell
I., 27-in. J WARNER & SONS FOUNDERS LONDON 1850

CHARLTON BY DOVER. SS. PETER AND PAUL. 1 Bell.
I., 19-in. 1811

ST. BARTHOLOMEW. 1 Bell.

A modern bell.

CHART (GREAT). ST. MARY. 6 Bells.

I., 30 in. JOHN TAYLOR & C^o LOUGHBOROUGH 1876
II., 32-in. Same.
III., 35-in. Same.
IV., 36-in. Same.
V., 40½-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1761
VI., 43½-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1805

T. R. E. Item iiij^{or} greate bells and a saunce bell.
Item ij handbells.

In 1758 the five bells were inscribed as under, according to Mr. Bryan Faussett:

I. Nicholaus Toke S G H I W 1636
II. Joseph Hatch made me 1610
III. Joseph Hatch made me W M C W 1614
IV. Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata ♀ (Fig. 19)
V. Joseph Hatch made me 1606

CHART (LITTLE). ST. MARY. 5 Bells.

I., 27½-in. NATHANIEL O COLINGTON IVN SAMT KNIGHT
FECIT 1722
II., 29½-in. SAMVELL KNIGHT C FECIT O 1722 O ⊖ O O
III., 32-in. IOHN ASHBEE IOHN IENINGS C W 2 K FECIT 1722
IV., 34-in. SAMVELL KNIGHT MADE ME 1722
V., 37-in. THE REV^d M^r THO^s PEARSON RECTOR IOⁿ ASHBEE IOⁿ AT-
WAY CH ♣ WARDENS R ♣ CATLIN FECIT 1742 ♣

T. R. E. Item two hande bells.
Item iiij bells in the Stepyll.

Passing bell rung an hour after death. Tellers : 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female, then toll for half an hour.

Bell tolled on morning of funeral from 7 to 8 a.m., and again for half an hour before the funeral.

Bells rung or chimed for Sunday services.

Ringin on Christmas Eve and on New Year's Eve.

The re-casting of the tenor in 1742 was carefully noted at the time in the parish register by the Rev. Thos. Pearson.

Best thanks to his successor, the Rev. R. S. Oldham.

CHART SUTTON.

ST. MICHAEL.

6 Bells.

- I., 32-in. CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1783
- II., 34½-in. Same.
- III., 36-in. Same.
- IV., 38½-in. Same.
- V., 42½-in. Same.
- VI., 45-in. THE REV^D MR HENRY JONES VICAR MESS^{RS} THO^S MARCHANT
& ROB^T PATTENDEN CHWARDENS CHAPMAN & MEARS OF
LONDON FECERUNT 1783

No information obtainable as to local uses—the Vicar “did not think it necessary to reply to” my communication.

CHARTHAM.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

- I., 30-in. IOHN MOATE THOMAS GEORGE THO[—] PEARCE
S KNIGHT 1728
- II., 31-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME ☉ 1605
- III., 33½-in. Same
- IV., 36½-in. Same.
- V., 40-in. THOMAS DENCE CW AVSTEN HOMWOOD CW ☉
1605
- VI., 44½-in. Same as No. II.

T. R. E. Item iiij bells with a Wakerell.

CHATHAM.

ST. MARY.

2 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. WILLIAM HATCH MADE ME RM SF CW ☉ 1651
- II., 38-in. RECAST 1812 FOR CHATHAM PARISH BY ORDER OF ARCH^D CHA^S
WINDEYER GIDEON DAVIS CIURCH WARDENS

The smaller is only used as a clock bell.

CHATHAM.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. JOHN THE DIVINE.

2 Bells.

I., 20½-in. 1798

II., 30½-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1820

S. PAUL.

1 Bell.

I., 26-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1854

CHELSEFIELD.

ST. MARGARET.

5 Bells.

I., 29-in. IOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1672 ♣ IOHN ♦ ALLEN
 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ♣ WILLIAM ♦ CHARMAN ♦ CHVRCH
 ♦ WARDENS ○ ○ ○ CH ○ ○ ♣

II., 30½-in. Same.

III., 32-in. Same.

IV., 35½-in. Same.

V., 39-in. Same.

A maiden peal.

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple suted of brasse.

Item on hand bell of brasse.

Death knell rung as soon as convenient after death, always within twelve hours if possible.

For a man tenor bell used ; tolled for an hour, then tellers 3 × 3.

For woman 4th bell for same space of time, tellers 3 × 2.

For youth from seven to sixteen, same as for man, but with 3rd bell.

For girl of same age, as for woman, on 2nd bell.

For children under seven, treble bell used, tellers 1 × 1 × 1.

Bell tolled for one hour before funeral, the same one being used as had been for the death knell.

Bells chimed for half an hour before service ; ring in on tenor for three minutes.

Peals on church festivals. Ringing on New Year's Eve temporarily discontinued.

That on 5th Nov. (happily) obsolete for the last twenty years.

For vestry meetings, 1st and 2nd bells chimed for five minutes.

Wedding peals usual at end of marriage service.

There is an endowment for bell ropes here, consisting of a field of about three acres, bequeathed by Dame Alice Bray in 1510. It produces about £3 5s. annually.

The bells were quarter turned and rehung in 1880 by Gillett and Bland, at a cost to the parish of £75.

Best thanks to Mr. Robert Brooker, churchwarden.

CHERITON.

ST. MARTIN.

6 Bells.

- I. PRAISE GOD IN HIS HOLINESS
MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1881
- II. PRAISE HIM IN HIS NOBLE ACTS
MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1881
- III. PRAISE HIM UPON THE LOUD CYMBALS
MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1881
- IV. LET EVERYTHING THAT HATH BREATH PRAISE THE
LORD
MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1881
- V. YE SPIRITS & SOULS OF THE RIGHTEOUS BLESS YE THE
LORD
MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1881
- VI. DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY
MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1881

Tenor, 7½ cwt.

These replace a ring of four as under :

- I., 27-in. *ioſeph hatch made me* WH 1634
- II., 29¼-in. Same. TP CW ☉ 1634
- III., 31½-in. Same. 1607
- IV., 34¾-in. ✠ (Fig. 20) *Sit Domini Domini Benedictum* ✠ (Fig. 5)
 ∪ (Fig. 19)

T. R. E. Item a iij bells in the steple.

“Sold,” ij hand-bells.

Passing bell falling out of use. A bell is tolled, but there is no rule as to time or method.

A bell tolled at funerals.

Bells chimed or rung for services ; ring in on one for the last five minutes.

Peals on church festivals and New Year's Eve.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. A. H. Hall.

CHEVENING.

ST. BOTOLPH.

2 (formerly 6) Bells.

I., 28-in. IN HON : ANNÆ F : NATU : MAX : GEOR : ET WIL-
UM

HELM : PR : WAL : R : PHELPS MADE ME 1715

II., 39-in. FAC : A° : FELICISSIMÆ INAUG : GEORGII M : B : F : & HIB :
REGIS F : D : P : P : PRO SALUTE REL : PROT : ECCL : & LEGUM
REGNI EDW : GEE : D : D : RECTOR BENEF : A : WARD R :
DENHAM I : SMITH T : COTTON CH : W 1715 R : PHELPS
FECIT

The remains (Nos. 1 and 5) of a ring of six. Another (No. 3) of the ring was in existence twenty years ago, but cracked. It was inscribed :

MÆ

IN HON : WILHELMINÆ PR : WAL : REGIÆ SOBOLIS FELIC :
MATRIS ∴ I : SMITH T : COTTON CH : W : 1715

Hasted does not give the number in his day. It is very sad to see two-thirds of a ring gradually coming to grief, doubtless through careless usage, and so disappearing altogether.

The ring would seem to have been given, probably by General (afterwards the first Earl) Stanhope, to commemorate the accession of George I. to the throne of England.

CHIDDINGSTONE.

ST. MARY.

8 Bells.

I., 22-in. HENRY STREATFEILD ESQ^R ROBERT PATRICK OF LONDON
FOUNDER 1784

II., 24-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1838

III., 25-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1813

IV., 25½-in. Same as No. II.

V., 27½-in. REV^D SACKVILLE STEVENS BALE RECTOR WILLIAM SEALE
& RICHARD PRICE CH. WARDENS ROBERT PATRICK OF
LONDON FOUNDER 1784

VI., 32-in. THOMAS LESTER & THO^S PACK OF LONDON
R
FECIT 1753 STEATFEILD MANEAT NOMEN

- The curfew is rung here at 8 p.m. between November and March.

8 Bells.

- T. R. E. Item in y^e Stepull in there frames v bells and in the same Stepull
on lytell bell.
Item ij bells caulyd hand bells.

Item to John Nycolson for mending of the bell stocke	...	...	...	...	...	...	ij <i>s.</i>	vii <i>ij.</i>
Item for making of ij bell roopes	...	...	...	...	...	...		x <i>d.</i>
Item for making of y ^e third bell clapper and bryng- yng whome...	...	...	...	...	...	...	v <i>s.</i>	iii <i>ij.</i>

Item for makying of ij baldryckes and for a new	
bockell	xij <i>d</i> .
Item for makying of the gret bell rope	vd.

The entire peal of six was clearly recast in 1760. In 1757, Mr. Bryan Faussett noted here six bells inscribed as follows :

I. Richard Phelps made me 1709. The gift of y^e Rev. Mr. John Nichols, Mr. Robert Sprakeling and others.

II. Robertus Mot Me Fecit 1594.

III. and V. Robertus Mot Me Fecit 1595.

IV. Joseph Hatch made me 1616.

VI. Robertus Mot Me Fecit 1599. Gabrielis.

Sir Dudley Digges left by will in 1638 £20 per annum to the Churchwardens in trust to pay (*inter alia*) on 19th May, to the young men of Chilham who should ring a peal in remembrance of him, 20*s*. for their dinner.—*Hasted*.

CHILLENDEN.

ALL SAINTS.

1 Bell.

I., 22-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1847

In 1758 the single bell here was one by Joseph Hatch.

CHISELHURST.

ST. NICHOLAS.

8 Bells.

I., 29-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1858

II., 30½-in. Same.

III., 32¼-in. Same.

IV., 34-in. Same.

V., 37-in. Same.

VI., 38-in. Same.

VII., 41-in. Same.

VIII., 46-in. Same.

These replace a ring of six, which was destroyed in the fire of 1857.

T. R. E. Item iiij great bells suted of brasse in the Steple and one Saints bell of brasse.

Item ij hand bells and iij sacryng bells of brasse.

Passing bell as soon as notice received. Tellers at beginning and end—three strokes for male, two for female.

Bells chimed for all services—"toll in" for five minutes.

A peal rung to usher in the New Year after late service, which ends at 12.15.

Peals at Easter, Christmas, Whitsun-Day, Holy Thursday, and Harvest Festival.

Best thanks to the Rector, the Rev. F. H. Murray.

ANNUNCIATION.

1 Bell.

Church built 1870; has presumably one bell of that date.

CHRIST CHURCH.

1 Bell.

Built 1872; probably one bell of that date.

CHISLETT.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

I., 31-in. IM · A · LEGACY · GIUEEN · BY · STEPHEN · HUNT ·
GEIT · LATE · OF · THIS · PARISH · WHOE · NOW ·
LYETH · BURVED · IN · THE · CHAÏCELL · OF ·
THIS · CHURCH · 1681

SK 1729

II., 33½-in. JOHN FARMAN SK ME FECIT 1729

III., 35-in. HENRY DENNE & JN^O WACHER CH. WARDENS 1786 W^M
MEARS OF LONDON FECIT

IV., 38½-in. WILLIAM WHITING SAMUEL KNIGHT ME FECIT
1729

V., 42-in. THO: LESTER & T: PACK FECIT 1752

VI., 48-in. SK ME FECIT 1729 IOHN DENN IOHN WHITNALL
CHURCH WARDENS

Nos. III. and V., prior to recasting, were also by Samuel Knight, and bore the same date as the rest of the ring.

A tablet on the south wall of the chancel records that Stephen Hunt, the donor of the treble bell, died 4th August, 1680, aged 38.

The Vicar, the Rev. F. G. Haslewood, LL.D. (to whom best thanks), informs me that no special customs as to ringing obtain here.

CLIFFE AT HOO.

ST. HELEN.

8 Bells.

I., 31-in. JOHN TAYLOR & C^O LOUGHBOROUGH 1860

II., 32-in. Same.

III., 33-in. JOHN TAYLOR & C^O FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH
A:D 1859

- IV., 36-in. Same.
 V., 37½-in. Same.
 VI., 39-in. Same.
 VII., 42½-in. JOHN TAYLOR & C^o BELLFOUNDERS LOUGH-
 BOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE 1859
 VIII., 47-in. ARCHD^N CROFT RECTOR REVND E: H: LEE CURATE
 JOHN TAYLOR & C^o FOUNDERS LOUGH-
 BOROUGH 1859
 ALBERT G: MURTON }
 JOHN OSMOTHERLY } CHURCHWARDENS

Prior to the recasting in 1859, two of the former peal were inscribed as follows :

- (? I.), 31-in. ROBERT L BELINDVN
 (? II.), 41-in. ioseph hatch made me ☉ 1616 IC RV AC VL OE E
 OR TM DDT

No local customs, according to the Rector, Dr. Stanley Leathes.

- CLIFFE (WEST).** ST. PETER. 1 Bell.
 I., 28-in. **INS M A R T A**
 □ (Fig. 34)

See p. 51 for an account of this interesting bell, by Thomas Lawrence of London.

CLIFTONVILLE.—*Vide* MARGATE.

- COBHAM.** ST. MARY MAGDALENE. 5 Bells.
 I., 31½-in. ioseph hatch made me ☉ 1632
 II., 33-in. MESSRS HUGGINS & WELLS CH. WARDENS THO^S MEARS LATE
 LESTER PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1790
 III., 37-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1623
 IV., 40½-in. Same. T T W I C W ☉ 1632
 V., 44-in. Same. W H ☉ 1632

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Tellers both at beginning and end—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female. Tenor bell used for adults ; 2nd for children. Told very slowly for half an hour.

This is repeated at noon on day of funeral. At time of funeral, bell tolled slowly for fifteen minutes, and more quickly when the body has arrived at the gate.

SUNDAY EARLY PEALS.—Until about ten years ago a bell was rung at 7 a.m. At 8 a.m. the 1st and 2nd are chimed for five minutes, and then the 2nd rung for another five. These are, no doubt, survivals of the old “Matins” and “Mass” bells, but an hour earlier than usual.

Services: Bells chimed twenty minutes, rung five. Ringing-in five minutes.

Peals on Christmas Day.

These uses, however, are in process of alteration, and before these lines are in print the following will be the rule:

“The bells shall be rung in changes for half an hour previous to each Sunday, Christmas Day, Easter Day, Ascension Day (evening) services, before and after New Year’s Eve services, also on Christmas Day and Easter Day mornings at 7 o’clock. The bells shall be chimed on Sunday morning at 8 o’clock for a quarter of an hour, for half an hour previous to service on Good Friday, and on all week-day evening services, and for a quarter of an hour previous to the week-day morning services.”

Best thanks to the Rev. Arthur H. Berger, Vicar.

COLDRED.

ST. PANCRAS.

1 Bell.

I., 18½-in. Blank.

Mr. Faussett notes the existence here of a western gable pierced with arches for two bells, but states that the single remaining bell was hanging in a loft or turret at the west end.

I have not seen this bell myself, but Mr. E. J. Wells, the Secretary of the St. Paul’s Ecclesiological Society, tells me that it is certainly an “ancient.”

COOLING.

ST. JAMES.

3 Bells.

I., 27½-in. IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1675 ♣ ○ ○ ○ ○
○ ○ C H ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ♣ ○ ○ ○ ○ DAVED ♠
HEATH ♠ CHVRCH ♠ WARDEN

II., 30½-in. IOHN PALMAR MADE MEE 1614

III., 31½-in. MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME 1651

The date on No. 2 is certainly a mistake for 1641.

COWDEN.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

5 Bells.

- I., 26-in. JOHN HODSON MADE ME 1654 M H
 II., 28-in. THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1791
 III., 30½-in. × (Fig. 5) *Iohannes Est Qumen Eius* + (Fig. 1)
 IV., 32-in. ANNO 4 DM 4 1584 ☙
 V., 35-in. I 4 W 1635

For mention of No. 3 bell, see p. 34. No. 4 is by some unknown founder, probably a Sussex "itinerant."

From Michaelmas to Ladytide the bell from the old steeple is tolled every morning at five, and every evening at eight o'clock, telling with iron tongue the hour. The small sum of twenty shillings was charged annually upon an estate in the parish, about a hundred and fifty years ago, by a person of the name of Still, to be paid to the clerk or sexton for the performance of this duty; and, if declined by them, there are always competitors for it.* I think we have here a clear case of survival of the morning and evening "Ave" bells—the latter being better known as the Curfew or "Ignitegium." The bequest is recorded on a board in the church, under date 1726. Of course there goes with it the usual tradition, that the donor had lost his way in the forest, and was guided home by Cowden bells—which may or may not be true; anyway, worthy Richard Still gave his rent-charge upon Waystrood Farm as remuneration for a duty which the clerk or sexton of Cowden had been performing for many centuries. I regret to have to say that the morning peal has been discontinued for the last twelve years, the amount not being considered sufficient pay for the double work.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice is given, but not before 8 a.m. Tellers, 3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female before tolling. Treble used for infants, 2nd for children under eight, tenor for all over that age.

SUNDAY RINGING.—Third bell rung at 8 a.m., called "Service" bell; tenor at half-past nine, called "Sermon" bell.

Bells rung for service on the great festivals, chimed on ordinary occasions for half an hour previously.

Peals on New Year's Eve, Queen's Birthday, and Accession Day.

Ringin on 5th November and 29th May discontinued.

Vestry (4th) bell also discontinued.

Best thanks to the Rector, the Rev. R. Abbey Tindall.

* "Archæologia Cantiana," vol. i., p. 113.

CRANBROOK.

ST. DUNSTAN.

8 Bells.

- I., 31-in. JOHN ELLIOTT & W^M HARDING CHURCH WARDENS 1801
THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT
- II., 32-in. Same.
- III., 34-in. Same.
- IV., 37-in. Same.
- V., 40 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. REV^D J. MOSSOP VICAR 1825 T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT
HENRY MILLER }
THO^S BUTLER } CHURCH WARDENS
JOHN WATERS } PARISH CLERK
- VI., 43-in. JOHN ELLIOTT & WILLIAM HARDING CHURCH WARDENS
1801 THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1801
- VII., 46-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1857
- VIII., 52-in. THE REV^D RICH^D PODMORE VICAR JOHN ELLIOTT & W^M
HARDING CH. WARDENS THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON
FECIT 1801 MAY ALL WHOM I SHALL SUMMON TO THE
GRAVE THE BLESSING OF A WILLSPENT LIFE RECEIVE

Old ringing usages are well preserved here. The curfew is still rung, as in the days of William the Norman, who did *not* introduce it, by the way.

On Sundays the 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. bells are still rung, as they were before the Reformation, to call the faithful to Matins and Mass. These times seem to have been the usual ones in Kent; elsewhere they are generally 8 and 9.

Passing bell tolled as soon as death is known—at first gently, then louder.

Bells chimed for services.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

Ringing on all festivals. Also on New Year's Eve, Queen's Birthday, and 5th November.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. Alban H. Harrison, for above notes, as also for access to the parish books. And herein especially to Mr. William Tarbutt, their custodian, for the facilities rendered me, and for much assistance derived from that local knowledge which he pre-eminently possesses. The accounts commence in 1509 with a most interesting inventory of vestments, plate, etc., belonging to the church, clearly showing the flourishing condition of the town of Cranbrook, then one of the principal seats of the cloth trade.

The first entry relating to the bells, undated, but clearly prior to 1535, is as follows :

"M^d the viij daye November there wasse assemblyd dyv's of the honest offe the pyshe when wasse graunted by the goodwyll off Rychard barre to make a grett bell under the grett bell thatt now ys ther he havynge graunted toward the makyng ther off the letell bell

"The sayd appoyntemente toke none effect

"It^r thr ys grawntyd by Rychard bygge toward the sayd bells so thatt theye maye be maed accordyng to lowdere Rynge xls."

This would seem to mean that Mr. Barre's proposal to add a larger bell to the ring by recasting (and adding metal to) the treble was lost, and that the amendment to recast the lot was carried.

No entry now occurs until 1560, when we find :

	Itm. for bread & wyne all the yere past & for the Repacions of the Bels as apperyth by the byll	xiijs.	ixd.
1561	Itm. payd to John Stonnam for mendyng of the great bell and iij of the bell whylles ...	xs.	
1562	Itm. Receyued of Thomas Beale for a lytle bell		ijd.
1564	Itm. paid to Rootes the Carpenter for iij dayes in the Church to haynge the gret bell & makyng of new styll fyndyng himsellf ...	iijs.	
	Itm. his s'vant the same iij dayes fyndyng himsellf		xviijd.
	Itm. payd to Thomas benden for yron worke to new hange the great bell (&c.)	ijs.	vijd.
	Itm. payd to Roots for ij dayes & di to trusse upp the bells & mendyng the seats & for hys s'vant	iijs.	
1565-6	Itm. payd to bysshop for yron worke about the bels		xijd.
	Itm. payd to Roots for mendyng of the frame of the bell		vjd.
	Itm. payd for mendyng of the bell whyles to Rotts & nayles		vijd.
1567-8	Itm. for viij fote of bourd for the bell whyles...		vd.
	Itm. payd to Roots for ij dayes & di worke About y ^e bells	ijs.	vjd.

	Itm. for hoopes for the bell whyles		iijs.
	Itm. payd to Roottes for xi days worke for the seates & mendynge the bells	xjs.	
	Itm. for yron work for the bells		iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. payd for cuttell (<i>sic</i>) bords for the bell whylys		xij <i>℥</i> .
1570	Payd more to Thomas Ruck for mettell had of hym for the bell	iiij <i>℥</i> s.	
	payd to Thomas Portreif for mettell for the bell	iijs.	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. payd to Rootes for mendynge the bell whylye		xij <i>℥</i> .
1572	Griffith Bishopp appointed "Sexten" and for his wages to have xls. and "the profites of the belles," etc.		
1573-4	Geven to the Ringers that did ringe for the Queenes Ma ^{tie}		xij <i>℥</i> .
	paide to Bishop the Smith for yron work done about the belles		xvj <i>℥</i> .
	paid to a Smithe for mendynge the Chymes	iijs.	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	pade to Boadle for making the wheele for the great belle	ijs.	v <i>℥</i> .
1575-6	Impis payd to Bisshop for bolyng of the great bell clapper	vs.	
	Itm. payd to Bodle for making of a wheele for the first bell	iiij <i>℥</i> s.	
	Itm. payd for a rope for the chyme	ijs.	x <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. payd to Bodle for making of the frame for the lytle bell oū the Chauncell	iijs.	v <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. payd to Waggorne for mēding of the third bellx clapper... ..	iijs.	iiij <i>℥</i> .
1578	Itm. p ^d unto Bysshoppe the Smith for yron worke About the Clocke & the bells		ix <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. p ^d for mendynge of the clapper of the greate Bell and carring of hym to the hamm'*	vs.	x <i>℥</i> .

* No doubt one of the local iron forges.

	Itm. paid to Romney for mendynge of the seconde Belle wheele	vjd.
1579	Inc'p'mis p ^d to Ralffe Lander ffor mendynge of the wheele of the greate bell	xijd.
	Itm. p ^d to Boadle ffor mendynge the fframe of the greate bell	ijs.
	Itm. p ^d to the Ryngers the xvij th of November last*	xijd.
	Itm. ffor a Roape for the lyttle bell	xviijd.
	Itm. p ^d ffor mendynge the wood worke aboute the bells	ijs. iiijd.
1580	Sundry small payments for repairs.	
1581	Itm. p ^d ffor mendynge a Buckell for a Batherycke	iijd.
	It. p ^d ffor ij ^c of Bell Mettell	lviijs.
	It. p ^d ffor the cariage thereof	iijs. iiijd.
	It. p ^d to Johnson ffor hangynge of three Bells	ixs.
	It. p ^d to Tourke & his men ffor helpe hangynge of the Bells	ixs.
	It. p ^d ffor a Roape ffor the Anthem Bell ...	xiiijd.
	It. p ^d to Eu'nden ffor yrone worke aboute the Bells	xijs.
	It. p ^d to ffa ^w nte ffor helpyng at the Church and fettyng the Beame to waye the Bells ...	ijs. iiijd.
	It. p ^d to Byllington ffor carynge home the beame	iiijd.
	It. p ^d to Hatch	xls.
	It. p ^d to Tourke ffor ffetling the Beame and Carynge home agayne	iijs.
	It. p ^d to Tourke for hangynge the Bells ...	xvs.
	It. p ^d ffor mendynge of the Sheares to hange the Bells	xijd.
	It. p ^d ffor Bradds to nayle them onn	viijd.
	It. p ^d to M ^r Taylor ffor carynge the Bells ...	iijs. vjd.

* Accession Day of Queen Elizabeth.

Owyng by the pishe at the fforesayde accompte
as here After ffolowythe.

Itm. ffor shottynge the greate Bell	...	...	viiij/z.
Itm. ffor mettall ffor the thirde Bell j ^c di	...	...	lvjs.
Itm. ffor mettall ffor the Treble	...	...	iiij/z. iiijjs.
* * *			
Itm. ffor mendynge the yron worke of the			
Bells	...	...	iijs. iiij/z.

Each of these entries is crossed through and
marked "paid."

- 1582 Itm. p^d to the Bellfounder wh^h was owinge to
hym the last Church accompt ... xv/z.
- Itm. p^d ffor makynge of the wheele of
the great Bell.
- Itm. p^d to hym (Bishop the Smith) more for
mendynge the Clappers of the iij bells & for
Brodds ... iijs.
- Itm. p^d to Turcke ffor hangynge up the ij
Bells and ffor takyng downe the greate Bell iijs. iiij/z.
- Itm. p^d to Byllyngtone ffor carynge to & fro
&c. about the bells ... ijs. ij/z.
- Itm. p^d to Turcke ffor ij dayes worke of hym &
his man in hanginge up the greate Bell ... iiijjs.
- Itm. p^d to Bearnnes ffor that he broke his
Tymbre Roape ... js.
- Itm. p^d to Beade ffor carynge to & froe of
Roapes ... js.
- Itm. p^d ffor ij^c of mettall bought at london at
3os. the C ... iiij/z.
- Itm. p^d ffor the porter there & the carryage
home... iijs. viij/z.
- Itm. p^d to Joseph Smythe ffor makynge a
wynche & ffor ij dayes & a halffe the worke
of hym & his ij men in hangynge up the
greate bell ... ix.s.
- Itm. p^d ffor an Ironhoke wayinge 14/z. ... iijs.

	Itm. p ^d ffor a Staple	xd.
	Itm. p ^d ffor mendyng a Clapper	viiij ^d .
	Itm. ffor a Buckle & nayles broades Keyes & Rynges	viiij ^d .
	Itm. p ^d ffor makynge ij pulleyes & a hoke ffor one of them	xxd.
	Itm. ffor pecyng of one of the Boults ...	vj ^d .
	Itm. ffor shottynge a Boulte & makynge a staple wayinge 8 ^{1/2}	ij ^s . ij ^d .
	Itm. ffor makynge a Claspe ffor the wheele ...	ix ^d .
	Itm. p ^d to Bearnys ffor carryng the greate Bell	xviiij ^d .
	Itm. p ^d ffor a pece of Tymbre & carryng therof	ij ^s .
	Itm. p ^d to Tourcke ffor makynge ffast the Bells	vj ^d .
	Itm. p ^d to the Bellfound' ffor shottynge the ij ^d Bell	vj ^d .
	Itm. p ^d to hym ffor iiij ^c of mettall w ^h was putto the greate Bell	v ^l .
	Itm. p ^d ffor Iron worke	iiij ^s .
	Itm. p ^d ffor Ryngynge the Bell to the Sermons on Satt' dayes	xij ^d .
	Itm. p ^d to Rycharde Taylor ffor carryng aboute the Bells	iiij ^s . iiij ^d .
1583	"Ringing of the Bell to Sermons" mentioned.	
	It. p ^d for a roape for the lyttle anthem Bell ...	xvj ^d .
1584	Sundry small repairs only.	
1585	Itm. p ^d more to John Wytherden for lxxxviiij ^{1/2} of yron for a Clapper of the greate Bell ...	viiij ^s . iiij ^d .
	Itm. p ^d more to S ^r Ric ^d Bakers ham'man for workynge of the sayde yron into a Bell Clapper	iiij ^s . iiij ^d .
	Itm. p ^d more to John Usborne for makynge & workynge agayne of the sayde Bell Clapper	ix ^s .
	Itm. p ^d more to James Sloman ffor trussinge up of the greate Bell & newe hangynge of the wheele	xij ^d .
1586	Itm. to Ewenden for yron worke ffor the iiij th Bell	ij ^d .

- 1587 Sundry repairs. Ringing on 17th Nov^r, also
p^d for ringyng the mornynge bell ffrom Michael-
mas 1586 to Lady day 1587 xs.
- 1588 Only small repairs—"Roape for lytle bell" 14*d*.
- 1589 Small repairs—3rd and 4th Bells mentioned.
- 1589-90 "Ryngers Dynner" on 17th Nov^r 4*s*. Ringing
to Sermons on "Satterdays" 4*s*.
Itm. p^d for tymbre & makynge a ladder to the
lytle Bell iijs. vjd.
- 1591-92 Payments for repairs & ringing—a rope for
"lytle Bell" 14*d*.
- 1592-3 Itm. p^d for ij Sitacions ffor Dorathie Geaffes
being in the Bellfry ix*s*. vjd.
Itm. p^d for the Sumn' his ffes & for a p cura-
tor to answer ffor us... .. ijs. vjd.
- 1593-4 Itm. p^d to Tho^ms Hathe for twoe Brasses for
the great bell xijs. iiij*d*.
(Payments also for fixing same and for help.)
- 1594-5 "Roape for lytle Bell" 12*d*. Sundry small
repairs.
- 1595-6 Itm. p^d to Richarde Launder the 4th of
October 1595 for fyve dayes worcke aboute
takyng downe of the Bells & ffetcheinge
weights vs.
Itm. p^d to Willm Weller the same tyme for
fyve dayes worke about the takynge downe
of the Bells & fetchinge the beame and weights
to weye the sayde Bells vs.
Itm. p^d to Edward Knyght the same tyme for
one dayes worke to fetch Arabell & to helpe
abowte the Bells xij*d*.
(Similar payment to Alex^r Sheaffe weaver.
Payments for dinners and drink in con-
nection therewith.)
Itm. p^d to the sayde John Rede ffor a trussing
fframe to hange the Bells & ffor a stocke ffor
the greate Bell xjs.

- Itm. p^d to the sayde John Rede for xxxviij
ffoote of plancke & xxiiij^{to} ffoote of Tymbre
to laye under the frame of the Bells ... vijs. vjd.
- Itm. p^d to Willm Hylls the 14th of Novembre
1595 for xj dayes worcke of hym selffe & his
Boye att ijs. viij^d. the daye ffor helpynge to
amende the Bell fframe xxixs. iiij^d.
- Ringers Dinner 17th Nov^r 5s.
Payment of 10s. to Bellfounder—apparently
earnest money.
- Itm. p^d to John Newberye for carrynge of the
Bells ffrom the Church & to the Church... viijs.
- Itm. p^d Willm Hylls 18th Jan^y 1596 for a dayes
worke mendyng the Bell frame ijs. viij^d
- Payments to Edw^d Knight for carrying weights
to waye the 3rd Bell—to John Rede Smith
of ffryttendon for mending the great bell
Clapper—to Symon Evernden for “work
about the bells”—to Rich^d Hovenden
“for a cable rope spoyled about the Busy-
ness” 8s.—to William Hylls for mending the
frame of the treble bell 2s.—and to Will^m
Weller for carrying weights and helping.
- 1596-7 Payment to Will^m Bressenden for repairs
56s. 8d. to Joseph Smith 16^d.
- Itm. p^d to Anthoney Wackeffylde the Bell-
founder the fyrst of September vjd.
- Itm. p^d unto Anthoney Stedman of Beddenden
for the mendinge of too of the Clapperes of
the Belles (12th Sept^r) xvjs.
Carrying & fetching same 12^d.
- Itm. p^d Rich Turcke joyne^r for planks &
boordes for the Bell wheels... .. vjs.
- Itm. p^d to one Hovenden a Roppe macker for
a Roppe for the Chansell Bell. Som. ... xij^d.
- Payments to John Reede of 7s. 4^d. for 2
new Bell Stockes—and of 39s. 5^d. to
Symon Evenden Smith for Iron worke.

- 1597-8 Itm. p^d to dyveres men at the appointment of
Anthony Wackfylde Bell fflownder & for the
prestes Debte to (?) Since Dew the som ... xj/l. xvijs. iiij*d*.
Itm. p^d for mendinge of the Clapper of the
second bell against the Cronacion day ... ijs.
Itm. p^d in a breckfast uppō the Ringers at the
Corronacion daye & for one to Kepp the
church vs. iiij*d*.
Sundry payments for repairs in this and follow-
ing years :
- 1603, 29th April. Rules to be observed by the Sexton :
Imp^{is}mis that he doe ringe or cause to be rong
the great bell every morning at fower of the
Clocke & eūye evening at eight thorough
out the yeare according to the Ancient cus-
tome.
It. from tyme to tyme to ——— finde and
p^{ro}vide belropes & bawdrickes to the bells of
his owne charge as hath bene heretofore.
(In default, Churchwardens to find and de-
duct from his wages.)
- 1604 Inventory of Church Goods.
Inprimis v great bells one small bell & a watch
bell to y^e Clock.
It. xxviij/l. of bell mettell.
To this last item is added in another hand-
writing :
“Deliv^d since by John Vincet Anno 1606 to
Joseph Hatche when he cast the bells.”
- 1604-5 p^d the 5th of July for my charges to Canterbury
about the bells xiiij*d*.
Payments to W^m Hylls and others for repairs.
- 1605-6 It. p^d at Canterbury being cited about the bells ijs. viij*d*.
It. p^d for charges in Riding thither ... ijs.
It. p^d for a Rope for the litle bell ... xx*d*.
It. p^d to Hills for hanging of the great Bell (&c) iijs.
It. p^d for charges of my exco^municacion and
absolution about the Bells xijs.

In 1606-7 the Wardens were again "cyted" to Canterbury, and it is quite clear that the bells were in bad order, and that the Archdeacon was down upon them thereanent, with the upshot that on the 11th January, 1606, "Sessors" were appointed to make "a Ceasse" for taking down the bells and doing what was necessary to put them in order, which turned out to be recasting the lot. This seems to have been a long operation, as the following extracts show :

1606-7	It. p ^d to John Haward ffishenden W ^{am} Hills & Lawrence Wylding for two dayes worke apeece in taking downe the Bells	xij ^s .
	It. p ^d to Richard Eyerman for his worke to helpe take downe the bells	xviii ^d .
	It. p ^d to George Martin for making the Indentures of Covenants and the bands betwene the Belfounder & us... ..	ij ^s .
	It. p ^d to Symeon Swainsland Thomas Basden W ^{am} Hadman & Thomas Peters eche of them iij ^s . vj ^d . for helping to haue up the bells and to hang them	xiii ^s .
	It. p ^d to Arthur Basden for the like worke	ij ^s .
	It. p ^d to Roger Grenowaye for fetching the great bell from Broomfield	ix ^s . viij ^d .
	It. p ^d to W ^{am} Hills & Laurence Wylding for eche of them a dayes worke to take downe the third bell & the Treble againe	ij ^s .
	It. p ^d to Robert Brickenden for bringing his Gynne w th his Carriage for to wey the bells	xij ^d .
	It. p ^d for fetching & carrying of Hatches Beame w th a horse from Broomefield & thither againe	ij ^s .
	It. p ^d for a horsehired for W ^{am} Hills when Mr Gyer & he rode to tune the bells	xij ^d .
	It. p ^d to moyses miller for washing* the fower bell	ij ^d .
	It. p ^d for fetching waigthes to wey the treble bell	xij ^d .

* Qy. watching.

	It. p ^d to W ^{am} Hills for ij dayes worke about the Bells	iijs.
	It. p ^d to Laurence Wylding for a dayes worke about the Bells	xviij <i>d</i> .
	It. p ^d to Symeon Evernden for Bell Clappers... iij <i>i</i> .	vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
	It. p ^d to Thomas Baylis for carryage of the great bell	ixs. iiij <i>d</i> .
	It. p ^d to Roger Beale for a clane* to wey up the bells	xx <i>d</i> .
	It. p ^d to John Newbery for carriage of y ^e other bells & fetching them from Broomfield ...	lijs.
	It. p ^d to W ^{am} Gyer for his Journey to Broomfield & his horse hyre about tuning the bells	ijs. viij <i>d</i> .
	It. p ^d to W ^{am} Hills for an other Journey to Broomfield his horse hyre	xviij <i>d</i> .
	It. p ^d to iiij men to fetch the Gynne agayne from the ffrythe howse	xij <i>d</i> .
1607-8	It. p ^d to William Hills & others for working about the bells & for my Journey to Broomfield	xxijs. vij <i>d</i> .
	It. p ^d unto olde Newberrie for fetching the newe third bell for carrying the old second bell & for bringing agayne the new second bell (&c)	xviijs. v <i>d</i> .
	It. p ^d unto John Johnson for helping Hills to hang the third bell into her tacklings ...	viiij <i>d</i> .
	It. p ^d to Robert Brickenden for using his Roape to take the Bells up & downe ...	iijs.
	It. I must be allowed for using my owne Roape and for sending abroad to get other Roapes together	iiijs.
1608-9	It. p ^d for a cable and a hook to take up the frame of the bells	xxvs.
	It. p ^d to the Sawyers for sawing of Tymber for the sayd frame (&c)... ..	xxxs.
	It. p ^d W ^{am} Hills for two days work helping ...	iijs.

* Qy. a crane.

It. p ^d to Goodman Patcheherst the Carpenter for making of the frame for the bells and for hanging up of the bells	viij <i>l</i> .	
To William Hills for helping	xxs.	
It. p ^d to him for using his belropes	vs.	
It. p ^d to John Newberry for carrying the frame & other Tymber to the Church	xjs.	vjd.
It. p ^d to Symeon Euernden for yron worke (&c.) iij <i>l</i> .	xixs.	vjd.
It. p ^d to Andrewe Rucke for 700 of Tackes for the belwheles		xd. ob.
It. p ^d to Henry Sanderson for hoopes to use about the belwheles	ijs.	vjd.
It. p ^d for making of a band for the deliuering of the bells againe from Hatche the bel- founder		xijd.
It. p ^d to fishenden for making a rowle to let down the bells and for his helpe & others to take them downe	ixs.	iiij <i>d</i> .
Sundries to William Hills	vs.	vjd.
It. p ^d for John Bennets charges & myne in Riding to Hatches about the bells		xx <i>d</i> .
It. p ^d that I layd out in charges for meate drinke & lodging for myselfe W ^{am} Hills & the carryers & meate for their oxen when the bells were fetcht from Hatche	xxjs.	vjd.
It. p ^d for vj oxen to help the carryers to bring the bells some pte of the way because they did want helpe being ouer loaded	iijs.	vjd.
It. p ^d to Egerman for helping downe with the Treble & for helping in w th the bells into the Churche when they came from the Bel- founders		xviiij <i>d</i> .
It. p ^d to the two Newberrys for carryng of iij bells to the Belfounders & fetching them agayne	lixs.	
It. p ^d to Thomas Bankes for carriage of two bells to the Belfounders	xs.	vjd.

1609-10	It. p ^d to Walter Ffoster for fetching ij bells from the belfounders	xvijs.	
	It. p ^d to John Newberry for fetching a Gynne from the ffrythe	viiij <i>l</i> .	
	It. p ^d to Egberman & Knight for helping about the Bells	xij <i>l</i> .	
	It. p ^d that I layd out mo ^r about the bells ...	ix <i>l</i> .	
	It. p ^d to Goodman Wyborowe the Carpenter for newe hanging the bells & for mending the wheles & stocks & helping up w th the bells iij <i>l</i> .	xs.	
	It. p ^d for candles for him & his men to worke by		xd.
	It. p ^d Goodman Turke for two newe stockes for the bells	vs.	
	It. p ^d to the Sawyers for sawing of the stockes asunder		xij <i>l</i> .
	It. p ^d for helpe to haue up the bells		xiiij <i>l</i> .
	William Hills as usual for help	xs.	
	It. p ^d to James Cadwell for bringing up to the Church the new stockes for the bells ...		iiij <i>l</i> .
	It. p ^d for carrying of Hatches beame to Broom-field		xvj <i>l</i> .
	Symeon Euernden for 2 New Clappèrs &c. ... iij <i>l</i> .	xiijs.	viiij <i>l</i> .
	William Hills for worke 20 <i>l</i> .		
	It. p ^d to Richard Egberman & Williā ^m Hills for carrying & fetching the brasses for the bells from casting	ijs.	
	It. p ^d mo ^r to W ^{am} Hills for ij dayes worke to laye the brasses & to hang the bells ...	iijs.	
	It. p ^d for bread & drinke for those w ^{ch} did help him		xij <i>l</i> .
	It. p ^d mo ^r to W ^{am} Hills for 8 ^{li} of brasse ...	iijs.	iiij <i>l</i> .
	It. p ^d to the founders for casting the brasses w ^{ch} wayed out 80 ^{li} & were retourned in agayne 91 ^{li}	xxxjs.	
	It. p ^d to Henry Beale for 26 ^{li} of mettall at 5 ^d the <i>l</i> . for brasses	xs.	xd.
	It. p ^d for two Skiddes for the frame of the bells	vs.	iiij <i>l</i> .

- Payments to Evernden for iron worke 13s. 3*d*.
and Hills for work 12*d*.
- 1610-11 It. p^d for the litle bell rope xviiij*d*.
An inventory of this year gives :
Imp'mis five great bells one small bell & a
watch bell.
Itm. an yron bludding* to helpe take up the
belles.
Itm. a cable with a hooke to pull up the
bells.
Itm. a great iron chape† for the same purpose
bought by Thomas Colwill 1608.
- 1611-12-13 Only payments for small repairs.
- 1613-14 It. p^d to Joseph Hatche for casting the bells‡ xl*i*.
Payments to W^m Hills for worke and for various
small repairs, including a "frame for the lytle
bell."
- 1614-19 Various petty payments not worth copying.
- 1619—2nd April. Regulations as to Ringing of Knells, etc.,
by the Sexton :
- Item that he shall not ring the greatest bell for
a Knell for any Corps neyther for a Solempne
bell before the bringing of the Corps to
Churche except the ptie deceased had landes
or were esteemed to be worth one hundred
poundes or were the sonne or daughter of
one of the same estate.
- Item that the dutie or fees for ringing the
greatest bell for a Knell shall be iij^s iiij^d. and
for the buryall 20^d.
- Item that his fees for ringing the fourth bell
shalbe ij^s. and for the buryall xij^d.
- Similar regulations for 3rd & 2nd bells—18^d. &
10^d. and 14^d. & 10^d. respectively.

* Qy. bludgeon—probably an iron bar to use with the winch.

† Probably an iron shoe for a swinging derrick.

‡ Final payment—the bells being now at last all in good order.

	Item for the small bell 8 ^d . and for the buryall 8 ^d . if it be a grown body but if a childe 4 ^d .		
1624	Great Bell ordered to be rung every evening at 8 from Michaelmas to Lady Day.		
1625-6	It. p ^d to the Ringers one Coronation daie ...	iijs.	iiij ^d .
1631-2	It. paid for a new rope for the Saunce bell ...		xx ^d .
1667-8	Item paid for a pece of stufe to make a cech* for the second bell & for seting of it oan ...	3s.	6 ^d .
	Item paid for altering the pins of the fourth bell claper & sum other worke aboute the bells	4s.	
1669-70	Expended w th the beell founder	1s.	
1670-1	p ^d to Tho Boorman for his help & whate hee expended upon help for to new truss the bells	2s.	
	p ^d for three new choules† for the bells ...	1s.	
	p ^d to Tho ^s Boorman for goeing to Rolvenden for to treet with the beell founder himself & hors	2s.	
	Expended on the bell founder when hee came to vew the bells	2s.	
	p ^d to John Goodman & Tho Boorman for goeing over to Rolvenden for to make a bargaine with the bellfounder	6s.	
	p ^d to W ^m Wake & for other help for to have the bell doune oute of the Steplle	3s.	9 ^d .
	p ^d to Tho Boorman for goeing to Rolvenden hors & himself	1s.	6 ^d .
	p ^d to Tho Boorman for carryinge of mettll to Rolvenden for to put to the bell & expences with the founder	3s.	
	p ^d Tho Boorman 2 ^s . for him & his hors & alsoe expended at Rolvenden in beeing there for to see the bell cast	7s.	
	p ^d to Tho Boorman & other help for to have the bell up againe & to W ^m Wake & his man to haing the bell	9s.	10 ^d .

* A catch.

† (py. jowls—what for, I cannot guess.

	p ^d to Nathaniell Bennett for 45 pound of pot brass & for 20 pound of peuter for to putt to the bell	2 <i>li.</i>	os.	6 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d to Tho Boorman for three pound & a half of old bell mettle		2 <i>s.</i>	
	p ^d to the founder for mettle		1 <i>s.</i>	
	p ^d for a staple for the bell		1 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d to Mr Leigh for writeing of a bond ...		1 <i>s.</i>	
	p ^d to Mr Hovenden for carting & fetching of the bell		1 <i>3s.</i>	
	p ^d to ffrancis ffoster bell founder*	6 <i>li.</i>	10 <i>s.</i>	
	p ^d Henry Cruttenden for altering the claper (&c.)		5 <i>s.</i>	7 <i>d.</i>
1676-7	p ^d for a choule for the 4 th Bell			4 <i>d.</i>
1685-6	p ^d to John Brumfeild for new hanging of the bells and for new Stocks wheels & ropes for the Bells	26 <i>li.</i>		
	p ^d for writeing the bargaine between him & the parish and of a bond for the performeance of it		3 <i>s.</i>	
	Exspended one the Bellhangers & Ringers when the Bells wher raised at the first time & for Oile for the Bells		5 <i>s.</i>	2 <i>d.</i>
1695	paid for casting the second Bell and a Clapper and adition of mettall	14 <i>li.</i>	9 <i>s.</i>	
	Charge in hanging the Bell	1 <i>li.</i>	3 <i>s.</i>	
	the carriage of the Bell to (<i>sic</i>)	1 <i>li.</i>	15 <i>s.</i>	4 <i>d.</i>
	paid to Richard Daw for a new Clapper and other Iron Work	2 <i>li.</i>	12 <i>s.</i>	9 <i>d.</i>
	Spent at the Bell founders and wyre & nailes...		5 <i>s.</i>	3 <i>d.</i>
1702	For two Bell ropes		7 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
1703	For a rope for the Chimes and a Rope for one of y ^e Bells		10 <i>s.</i>	
1715-16	to John Brissenden for a sett of Bellropes ...	1 <i>li.</i>	7 <i>s.</i>	
	for ringing		10 <i>s.</i>	
	To Tho Skinner for carrying two Bells to Maid- stone & for Bringing two Back	2 <i>li.</i>		

* Of Salisbury—evidently peripatetic. He cast a bell for Rustington, Sussex, in this year.

To Henry Butler for leather for a bell ...			8 <i>d.</i>
To Mr Hollingworth for writings ab ^t y ^e			
Bells	10 <i>s.</i>		
To Cotterell & Mear for beare to workemen			
ab ^t y ^e Bell frame	5 <i>s.</i>		
ffor warfage weighing & Landing the Bells ...	15 <i>s.</i>		
To Mr. Phelps	20 <i>li.</i>	12 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
To Tho Bridgland for Bringing two Bells &			
two clappers	1 <i>li.</i>		
To Sam ^l Bridgland for Carrying y ^e first Bell to			
Maidstone to be new Cast	8 <i>s.</i>		
To Dan Eldridge for Ash for the Bells Stays...	1 <i>s.</i>		
To Good ⁿ Harden for carrying y ^e first Bell to			
be new Cast	8 <i>s.</i>	9 <i>d.</i>	
To Rich. Phelps towards casting the Bells ...	40 <i>li.</i>		
p ^d to Sam Stephenson halfe part for hanging			
the Bells	10 <i>li.</i>		
p ^d Jn ^o Diamond Towards y ^e Bell frame ...	10 <i>li.</i>		
p ^d James Bridgland for carrying & bringing two			
Bells to & from Maidstone	2 <i>li.</i>		
p ^d Tho Bridgland for carrying & bringing of			
y ^e Bells	2 <i>li.</i>		
p ^d M ^r Allard for carrying 5 bells to London*...	1 <i>li.</i>		
p ^d M ^r Edmonds for Bringing y ^e Six bells Downe			
Warfage & Weighing	1 <i>li.</i>	11 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
p ^d & weighing y ^e bells	2 <i>li.</i>		
p ^d & in takeing downe y ^e bell			
frame... ..	12 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>	
p ^d Parks towards carrying y ^e bell frame ...	6 <i>s.</i>		
p ^d Henry Butler for a Baderick			8 <i>d.</i>
Debts noted as unpaid at end of year :			
To M ^r Stephenson for new hanging y ^e Bells ...	10 <i>li.</i>		
To M ^r Phelps for new casting y ^e Bells & new			
Clappers	34 <i>li.</i>	16 <i>s.</i>	3 <i>d.</i>
To M ^r Edmonds for carriage of bell in 1716...	12 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>	
To Jn ^o Diamond remainder for Bell frame &c.	36 <i>li.</i>	13 <i>s.</i>	8 <i>d.</i>

* They were to be cast into a lighter ring of six (see next entry).

The results of this do not seem to have been satisfactory, for in April, 1718, at a Vestry, the following resolution was made :

“Whereas three of the six bells are out of order
Mr. Phelps the bell founder hath agreed to
cast them into eight bells for twenty guineas
the parish allowing ten pounds extra for car-
riage it is therefore ordered by this Vestry
that the six bells shall be sent to London and
cast into eight without any further charge to
the parish except the £10.”

This, however, was not carried out ; probably the terms offered were in-
sufficient, and so the parishioners contented themselves with having two of
the bells re-cast.

1718	A letter from Mr Phelps about the Bells	...	...	3 <i>d</i> .
	Ringng at several times	...	2 <i>li</i> .	19 <i>s</i> . 5½ <i>d</i> .
	p ^d Sam Parks for carrying two bells to Maid- stone and fetching them home again	...	1 <i>li</i> .	19 <i>s</i> .
	p ^d for taking down the Bells for beer	...	3 <i>s</i> .	6 <i>d</i> .
1719	p ^d Mr Edmonds carrying two bells to London & back again	...	1 <i>li</i> .	
	p ^d Jn ^o Jackson mending Bell Clappers 2 yrs as pr Bill	...	1 <i>li</i> .	6 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .
	p ^d Mr Phelps for casting two bells adding 14 <i>h</i> of mettall fitting Clappers & Carriage from y ^e waterside	...	4 <i>li</i> .	2 <i>s</i> .
1764	p ^d Tho ^s Sweetlove for Bell hanging as p ^r bill...	...	9 <i>li</i> .	
	p ^d Tho ^s Jenner for Leather for the Bells	...		6 <i>s</i> .
	p ^d Gilbert the Bellhanger on last years account	...		5 <i>s</i> .
1782—19 April.	At a meeting “assembled for consulting about taking down the great Bell and Cast- ing the same into three small ones to make the peal eight It is unanimously agreed that the same shall be done Provided that the expence of the same can be defrayed by subscription and the superfluous metal.”			

This was apparently carried out ; but, as the following entries show, the parish did not come off scot-free :

1783	p ^d for an Umbrella*	12s.
	p ^d M ^r Gilbert for hanging the bells	22 <i>li.</i> 10s.
1785	Rob ^t Gilbert (bell hanger) as pr Bill	1 <i>li.</i> 15s.
1786	p ^d M ^r Mears the Bell founder as pr Rec ^s	24 <i>li.</i> 16s. 3 <i>d.</i>
	Exp ^d settling M ^r Mears's bill	4s. 7 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d M ^r Leigh for a new Tenor rope	5s.
	p ^d for an Umbrella*	15s.

Later accounts are unsearched by me ; but I learn from Mr. Tarbutt that these eight bells did not last long, that for some years at the close of last century two of them at least were out of order, and on the 19th June, 1801, a Vestry determined upon providing an entirely new peal, at an estimated cost of about £300. The actual cost, however, amounted to £463 3s.

Since 1801 the expenses connected with the bells may be briefly summarized as follows :

1812	Rehanging at a cost of... ..	£20
1825	Fifth bell recast by Mears & some re-hanging cost	£51 18s. 7 <i>d.</i>
	And the carriage	£1 19s. 9 <i>d.</i>

The bell being cracked was not *let* down, but thrown down out of the tower.

1843	Re-hanging cost	£20 12s. 6 <i>d.</i>
------	------------------------	----------------------

The work was so badly done that Mears had to be sent for, and thus we find that in

1845	paid M ^r Mears for re-hanging the bells ...	£18 18s.
1858	The 7 th bell was re-cast & re-hung, cost ...	£42 11s. 8 <i>d.</i>

From 1800 to 1825 new bell-ropes were purchased annually, at a total cost of about £100 for these “churchwardens’ perquisites.” After 1825, however, the cost is less, being about £40 to 1870, the ropes being allowed to wear out before being replaced.

* Nihil ad rem, of course—but I could not resist inserting the entries. What were the umbrellas for? and why were two bought within three years? I suppose they were for use at funerals in wet weather.

Mr. Tarbutt calculates that the cost of the Cranbrook bells from (say) 1525 to the present time, calculated at the present value of money, would amount to very nearly £3,000.

CRAY (FOOTS).

ALL SAINTS.

3 Bells.

I., 21-in. }
 II., 23-in. } JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1863
 III., 25-in. }

In 1863, when the church was restored, there were here but two bells, both of them cracked and useless. They were sold to Messrs. Warner and Sons in part payment for the present peal of three.

T. R. E. Item ij bells suted in the steple conteynyng in compas cyther of them iij foote and a half of brasse.

Item ij sacryng bells.

Apparently no local uses.

CRAY (NORTH).

ST. JAMES.

3 Bells.

I., 21½-in. J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1874
 II., 25-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1857
 III., 28-in. R: PHELPS FECIT M^r IAMES BEADLE CH: WAR-
 DEN 1727

T. R. E. Item iij bells suted in the steple and a litle handbell of ———.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female, then tenor tolled (minute strokes) for half an hour for a child, for an hour for adults.

Tenor bell tolled before funerals.

Sundays: All three bells chimed at 8 a.m. ("Matins" bell). For services bells chimed at intervals, toll in on treble last five minutes.

Bells chimed for Vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Rev. H. W. Johnston, Rector.

CRAY (ST. MARY).

ST. MARY.

5 Bells.

I., 31½-in. Rubert + mof + made + me + 1583 ☉
 II., 33-in. Same.
 III., 35-in. IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1655 ♠ EM ♠ ESP ♠
 CHVRCH ♠ W ♠
 IV., 39-in. Same.

V., 42½-in. EDWARD † MANNING † EDWARD † SPVRLING † IOHN
 † HODSON † MADE † ME † 1655 †
 CHVRCH † WARDINGS ♣ W † H †

T. R. E. Item v bells suted in the steeple and a saints bell of brasse.

Bells re-hung by Gillett and Co. in 1882.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received by sexton, provided it be between sunrise and sunset. Tenor tolled for one hour for adults. Tellers—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman—both at beginning and end. Third bell used for children.

Funeral ringing unusual. A half-muffled peal has been rung lately at the funeral of a bell-ringer.

Sundays : Treble bell rung for five or ten minutes at 8 a.m. This may be either the "Matins" or "Mass" bell. According to the usual Kentish custom it was probably the latter.

For services : Bells rung or chimed after being struck three times all round. Toll in on tenor for seven minutes, then treble for three.

Early peals on the great Church festivals. On last night of year a half-muffled peal before the midnight service, tenor tolled for last three minutes of year, and after service an open peal is rung.

Best thanks to Mr. Stanley B. Welch, Conductor of the local Ringers' Guild, for above information. He tells me also of a curious occurrence, which I will give in his own words : "One evening, when we had stopped our practice, our conductor said to the sexton : 'That tenor has been sounding so mournful to-night that I'm sure you will have to toll it for a death in a day or two.' The sexton, to my astonishment, agreed, and both the men repeated their prophecy with certainty on my chaffing them. The bell was tolled for a death or funeral on five days out of the following week. Is this a general belief, or local?"

As to the above facts there is no doubt. The question is, was it a mere coincidence or something more? *Quien sabe?*

CRAY (ST. PAUL'S). St. PAULINUS. 3 Bells.

I., 30½-in. BRIANVS ELDREDGE ♥ ME FECIT 1624

▽ (Fig. 6) ▽ ▽

II., 32-in. ✠ (Fig. 7) Iohannes Crisi Care Dignare Pro

▽

Nobis Orare

III., 33-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1859

T. R. E. Item iiij bells suted in the steple on saints bell.

Prior to its being re-cast in 1859, the third bell was inscribed :

PRAISE THE LORD ♪ 1597 A W

This was by Anthony Wakefield, a Sussex itinerant founder (see p. 60).

For account of No. 2, see p. 27.

Passing bell as soon as notice is given. Tenor tolled for an hour. Tellers
—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman, 3 × 1 for child.

CRAYFORD.

ST. PAULINUS.

8 Bells.

- I., 26-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1876
OF WHICH THE TENOR BORE DATE 1624
- II., 27-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1876
IN LIEU OF A PEAL OF FIVE BELLS
- III., 28-in. MEARS (as above)
EDWARD HORNER }
THOMAS HUTCHINSON } CHURCH WARDENS
- IV., 30-in. MEARS (as above)
BENJAMIN FREDERICK SMITH RECTOR
- V., 32-in. MEARS (as above)
TO THE PARISH OF CRAYFORD 1876
- VI., 34-in. MEARS (as above)
THIS PEAL OF 8 BELLS WAS PRESENTED BY
HIS FAMILY
- VII., 37-in. MEARS (as above)
IN LOVING MEMORY OF DAVID EVANS OF
SHENSTONE
- VIII., 41-in. MEARS (as above)
TO THE GLORY OF GOD

The ring which these replaced were inscribed as under :

- I., 29-in. IOHN ♪ HODSON ♪ MADE ♪ ME ♪ 1672 ♪ THOMAS ♪
EVERS ○ ○ ♣ IOHN ♪ HVSSEY ♪ CHVRCH ♪ WAR-
DENS ♣ CH ○ ○ ○ ♣ W H ○ ○ ♣
- II., 31-in. IOHN ♪ HODSON ♪ MADE ♪ ME ♪ 1672 ♪ THOMAS ♪
EVERS ♪ IOHN ♪ HVSSEY ♣ CHVRCH ♣ WARDENS ♪
W H ○ ○ ○ C H ○ ○ ○ ♣ ○ ○ ○ ♣

- III., 33-in. IOHN * HODSON * MADE * ME * 1672 * THO-
MAS * EVERS ♣ IOHN * HVSSEY * CHVRCH *
WARDENS ♣ CH ○ ○ ○ WH ○ ○ ○
- IV., 36½-in. *Gulihelmus Land fecit Me* **IS IH** 1615
- V., 41-in. THOMAS BARTLET MADE ME 1624 ○

T. R. E. Item iij greate bells of bellmettell hanging in the Steple there.

DEATH KNELL.—Tenor for all above eighteen, treble for younger people. Tolloed for about half an hour. Tellers at end *only*—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman, none for child.

FUNERALS.—Bell tolled for half an hour before corpse arrives, and then more quickly until it reaches the lich-gate.

SUNDAYS.—Bells chimed at 8 a.m. and at 10 a.m. Query survivals, the last-mentioned hour being a very unusual one.

For services: Bells alternately rung or chimed. Tolling in for ten minutes.

The following entries occur in the parish accounts:

- 1725—Sept. 30. Paid M^r Gilburd for ringers when y^e King
dined at May Place 11s. od.
- 1820—Nov. 17. For Beer for the Ringers for the King's
coming through Crayford 10s. od.

Best thanks to the Rector, the Rev. B. F. Smith.

CROCKEN HILL. ALL SOULS. 1 Bell.

A modern church with one equally modern bell, and, as the Rev. F. N. Style (to whom thanks) tells me, no local uses.

CROOKHAM HILL. HOLY TRINITY. 1 Bell.

I., 27-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1842

CRUNDALE. ST. MARY. 3 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. ROBERT CATLIN FECIT 1750
- II., 33-in. WILLIAM IVCE THOMAS PALMAR MADE MEE 1663
- III., 37-in. *Robertus + mof + me + fecit +* 1593 ☉ ☽ ☽ ☽

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple.

Mr. Bryan Faussett thus describes a coat-of-arms on the tenor: "(1st) 3 Garbs within a Bordure engrailed (viz. for Kempe) & many other different

quarterings as on ye 3rd 4th 5th 6th & 8th Bells at Wye which were cast at the same time ; (2nd) a Fess Wavy between 9 Gutttes du Sang ; (3rd) a Cheveron Ermine between 3 Swannes by y^e name of Swann." This refers only to the 3rd shield. The two first he does not describe, and I cannot well make them out from the rubbings.

Tenor bell unused at present for want of a clapper.

Passing bell as soon as notice received. Tellers—3 × 3 for males, 3 × 2 for females.

A Bell chimed on morning of funeral, and at the interment.

Bells chimed for Sunday services, then "toll in."

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. W. A. Vaughan.

CUDHAM.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

3 Bells.

- I., 27-in. ♣ IOHN ♠ HODSON ♣ MADE ♠ ME ♣ 1661 ♣ I B ♠ T F
 ♣ C O O WARDENS O
- II., 29½-in. Sancte Paule Ora Pro Nobis ∇ (Fig. 28)
- III., 33-in. I B ♠ T F O CHVRCH ♠ WARDENS ♣ IOHN ♠ HODSON
 ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1661 ... O ... W H O

T. R. E. Item on litle hand bell of brasse.

Item iiij bells in the steple suted of brasse.

There were four bells here within living memory—the one which has gone had no clapper, and on the occasion of a wedding a local idiot got up in the belfry and struck it with a large hammer, with the result of breaking it irretrievably. The metal was sold.

CUXTON.

ST. MICHAEL.

5, formerly 3 Bells.

- I., 27-in. }
 II., 28-in. }
 III., 30-in. } MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1866
 IV., 33-in. }
 V., 36-in. }

Here were formerly three bells ; two of them (both cracked) survived until the present ring were cast. They bore the following legends :

∩ (Fig. 6)

I., 29½-in. ✠ (Fig. 7) CRISTVS PERPETVE
 ∩ ∩
 DEI NOBIS GAVDIA VITE

II., 32½-in. [☞] ★ BY O IVE O GYLLES O BELLFOUNDER O O ★ [☞] 1589

For accounts of the two old bells, see pp. 22 and 73.

DARENTH.

ST. MARGARET.

3 Bells.

I., 24-in. Blank.

II., 26½-in. † STEPHANVS † SWAN † ME † FECIT † ANNO † DOMINI
 † 1609 † (Row of 18 coins below)

III., 29½-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON
 REV^D JOHN EVELEIGH VICAR
 JOHN SEARS }
 GEORGE CATES } CHURCHWARDENS 1856

T. R. E. Item iij bells of bras suted in the steple.

Item ij small bells both of brasse.

And at St. Margaret's Chapel :

Item ij bells suted of bras in the steple.

DARTFORD.


HOLY TRINITY.

8 Bells.

I., 29½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1882

II., 30½-in. P W 1702

III., 32½-in. P W 1702

IV., 35½-in. WILLIAM POPE CHURCH WARDEN  PACK & CHAP-
 MAN OF LONDON FECIT 1773

V., 37-in. P W 1702

VI., 38½-in. P W 1702

VII., 42½-in. P W 1702

VIII., 46-in. CHARLES MANNING THOMAS WALSTON CHVRCH-
 WARDENS
 MADE BY PHILIP WIGHTMAN LONDON 1702

T. R. E. Item iiij bells suted in the steple, on small bell called the
 Dollyng bell.

Item on hand bell of brasse for buryalls.

Hasted notes here that one of the smaller bells "used till of late to be constantly rung as of old custom at 4 o'clock every morning, and again at the time of curfew at night"—clearly a survival of the morning and evening "Ave" peals.

DARTFORD. CHRISTCHURCH. 1 Bell.

Modern church with modern bell.

ST. ALBAN. 1 Bell.

Modern church with modern bell.

DAVINGTON. ST. MARY MAGDALENE. 3 Bells and Priest's Bell.

Priest's, 12-in. 1774

I., 16-in. ✠ *Whyke and thanke O : P* 1856
Taylor Loughborough

II., 17-in. Same as above.

III., 18½-in. ✠ *Whyke and thanke O : P.* 1856

✠ *Taylor and Son Loughborough*

On iron bell-frame. *TAYLOR AND SON BELL-FOUNDERS* 1856

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Tellers at beginning—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman—then the age is tolled.

At seven o'clock on morning of funeral, tellers apparently repeated twice.

Bell tolled for half an hour before interment.

Sunday services : Bells chimed fifteen minutes, then Priest's bell tolled fifteen minutes.

Best thanks to the Rev. Canon Moore.

DEAL. ST. LEONARD. 5 Bells.

I., 29½-in. C H MADE ME 1685

II., 31-in. CHRISTOPHER HODSON MADE ME 1685

III., 33½-in. Same.

IV., 37½-in. Same.

V., 41-in. ○ ○ ○ CHRISTOPHER ○ HODSON ○ MADE ME ○
 1685

EDWARD ○ SMITH ○ GEORGE ○ KNOWLER ○

CHVRCH ○ WARDENS ○ ○ ○

No. 3 is cracked in the sound-bow.

DEAL.

ST. ANDREW.

1 Bell.

I., 27-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1850

ST. GEORGE.

1 Bell.

I., 20-in. 1762

DENTON.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

2 Bells.

I., 31½-in. + Sancte Leonarde Ora Pro Nobis ∇ ∇

II., 34½-in. *Domini Magdalene Campana Gemit Melodie* + ∇ ∇

There were formerly three bells; the treble, being cracked, was sold about twenty years ago. It measured 27½ inches, and was inscribed:

+ Iohannes Est Domini Eius ∇ (Fig. 13)

so that Denton possessed until lately an untouched medieval peal (see pp. 30 and 31). The cross on each is the same (Fig. 14). The shields on the two remaining bells are Figs. 15 and 16.

DEATH KNELL.—Tellers somewhat unusual—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman, 2 × 3 for male under twenty, 2 × 2 for girl under twenty.

Bell tolled at eight on morning of funeral, and again before the funeral takes place until the corpse reaches the gate.

Best thanks to the Rector, the Rev. C. J. Hussey.

DEPTFORD.

ST. NICHOLAS.

8 Bells.

I., 30½-in. 1701.

II., 31-in. 1701.

III., 33½-in. 1701.

IV., 37-in. 1701.

V., 39½-in. 1702.

VI., 42-in. 1701.

VII., 45½-in. S N I H 1701

VIII., 49½-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1842

REV^d A E SKETCHLEY M A VICAR

CHARLES BARLEE }
WILLIAM KNOTT } CHURCHWARDENS

T. R. E. Item v great bells of bell mettell suted hanging in the stéple there.

Item j little bell called a Saynt bell.

Mem: "on little bell sold."

According to "Registrum Roffense," Isaac Loader, Esq., was a liberal benefactor towards the cost of this peal, the tenor of which was re-cast (so Hasted states) in 1780, and, as will be seen above, again in 1842. The tower looks very dilapidated outside, and it was stated not long since that it was not safe to ring the bells; but I am told that they are still rung almost daily, and that the tower is as stable as when first built.

I am much indebted to Mr. Geo. Lockyer for trouble taken to find out from the parish accounts the names of the founders of the ring. Unfortunately it was labour in vain, as the accounts do not go back as far as 1701-2.

DEPTFORD.

ST. PAUL.

3 Bells.

I., 27½-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1823

II., 33½-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1825

THO ^S HAYCRAFT	}	CHURCH WARDENS
EDW ^D HAWKE		

III., 40½-in. MESS^{RS} JAMES ABBOTT & RICH^D HARREDEN CH. WARDENS
1772 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT

CHRISTCHURCH.

1 Bell.

I., 36-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1862

ST. BARNABAS.

1 Bell.

Presumably one bell of quite recent date. Church built 1882.

ST. JOHN.

8 Bells.

A peal of eight from the Whitechapel Foundry, dated 1874—tenor 14 cwt.

ST. LUKE.

8 Bells.

Church built 1872—has a ring of eight bells by Warner and Sons.

ST. MARK.

1 Bell.

Built 1883—presumably one bell of that date.

ST. PETER.

1 Bell.

I., 25-in. 4857

A steel bell.

DETLING.

ST. MARTIN.

1 Bell.

I., 27-in. *iuseph hafch made me* 1603

Pits for three bells still remain—the other two were sold about twenty-five years ago for funds to repair the church.

No local uses. Death knell rung as soon as notice received.

Thanks to the Rev. John Cave-Browne, Vicar.

DITTON.

ST. PETER.

2 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

Priest's 14½-in. BORODINO. 1825

I., 25-in. TM CW WH 1656

II., 26-in. EDWARD MIDDLETON C W 1717

Quite lately rehung and in thorough order.

DODDINGTON.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

2 Bells.

I., 31-in. ROBERT CATLIN FECIT 1751

II., 33-in. RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1712

In 1760 there were here "six bells, but three of them useless, being cracked and out of their frames." So much Mr. Bryan Faussett. It appears, however, that this unsatisfactory state of things had been caused by a fire, the steeple having been struck by lightning in or about 1650 and badly damaged. At the beginning of the present century, it was taken down and replaced by a fabric of wood, four of the bells being sold to defray the expense. Of the present survivors, only one is in use at present, the other being not in ringing order.

Best thanks to Vicar, Rev. W. J. Monk.

DOVER.

ST. MARY.

8 Bells.

I., 28½-in. S KNIGHT FECIT 1724

II., 29-in. SAMVEL KNIGHT FECIT 1724

III., 29½-in. Same.

IV., 31½-in. Same.

V., 37½-in. FEAR GOD ALL YOV THAT RING SK FECIT
1724

VI., 38-in. IOHN DILL THOMAS IOYNER CHVRCHWARDENS
SK FECIT 1725

- VII., 41-in. HONOUR THE KING SAMUEL KNIGHT MADE
THIS RING 1724
- VIII., 46-in. STEPHEN HAMMOND JAMES PERCHE CHURCH-
WARDENS S KNIGHT FECIT 1724

No information to be had as to local uses.

DOVER. ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE, OLD CHURCH. 1 Bell.

I. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1872

This is a very poor substitute for the ring of six which it replaces. They were, it is understood, traded away for the wretched steel bells now in the new church. They were inscribed as follows :

- I., 30½-in. L^P G^E SACKWELL T^S REVELL ESQ^{RE} GAVE ME I^A GOD-
WIN THO^S KID
- II., 33½-in. IOHN ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME 1637 ▽
- III., 37-in. IOHN ♦ WILNAR ♦ 1637
- IV., 38-in. IOHN WILNAR ▽
- V., 43-in. IOHN ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME 1637
- VI., 47-in. Same. W ♦ W ▽ R ♦ S
C ♦ W

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE, NEW CHURCH. 6 Bells.

- I., 29-in. NAYLOR VICKERS & C^O 1862
- II., 31-in. Same. 1861
- III., 35-in. Same. 1862
- IV., 39-in. Same. 1862
- V., 41-in. Same. 1861
- VI., 45-in. Same. 1861

Steel bells, about as rusty as they make them.

HOLY TRINITY. 1 Bell.

A small modern bell, inaccessible.

ST. MARY IN CASTRO. 1 Bell.

A 29-inch bell by Warner and Sons, dated 1880.

This exceedingly interesting ancient church has, thanks to God, been lately, after some two centuries of desecration and neglect, restored to

His service. Tradition states that in the seventeenth century there was here a ring of six bells, but whether they were in the church tower or in the old Roman Pharos, as Hasted states, is somewhat doubtful. Tradition is equally contradictory as to the fate of the said ring. One authority states that Prince George of Denmark, at the intercession of Admiral Rooke, caused them to be removed to Portsmouth and placed in the tower of St. Thomas's Church there. Another authority states that the order for removal to Portsmouth was never carried out, but that the bells went to St. Margaret at Cliffe. Neither of these traditions is, I think, correct; the date of the present ring at Portsmouth disproves the one, and the fact that St. Margaret at Cliffe possesses only one bell, and that of earlier date than the supposed transfer, militates equally against the other. The element of truth lying at the bottom of all this is, I think, that the bells were broken up and the metal sent to Portsmouth *Dockyard* for casting purposes.

We have, however, in the Surrenden MSS., a piece of information as to one of these bells which is perfectly trustworthy, as being within the personal knowledge of the narrator, Sir Edward Deering. It is given as follows in "Arch. Cant.," vol. i. It appears that there was at that time (1630) in this church a brass (of which a sketch is given) to Sir Robert Astone, and the following note is added by Sir Edward:

"The circumscription of the great bell heere and weighing 3000 lb. weight, and which was the gift of that S^r Robert Astone, hath every letter fayre and curiously cast, and each crowned with a ducal crown 'Dominus Robertus de Astone Miles me fecit fieri A^o quarto R. Ricardi sēdi G.' Lower than this in small letters was cast

" 'Stepne Norton of Kent
Me made in god intent.' "

It is to be noted that these last two lines appear on a bell now at Chisel borough in Somerset, cast by the said Stephen Norton, and that on the only two other specimens of his workmanship known now to exist, viz., those at Snaves and Holy Cross, Canterbury, the inscriptions are in very handsome crowned capitals. See p. 16.

Best thanks to the Rev. H. Tudor Craig, senior chaplain, Dover, and to the Rev. A. du B. Hill, our best authority on Hampshire bells.

- DOWN.** ST. MARY THE VIRGIN. 3, formerly 4 Bells.
- I., 33-in. + (Fig. 9) *Iohannes* ○ *Christi* ○ *Caro* ○ *Dignare* ○
Pen ○ *Mobis* ○ *Orare*
- II., 36-in. + (Fig. 7) *Sum* ○ *Rosa* ○ *Pulsata* ○ *Mundi* ○
Katerina ○ *Vocata*
- III., 39½-in. † (Fig. 30) *Surge* | *mane* | *seruire* | *deo* | *anno* |
dui | *m* | *d* | *xi* ○



An interesting trio ; see pages 26 and 49. The stop on Nos. 1 and 2 is Fig. 8. That on No. 3 is Fig. 31.

T. R. E. Item iij bells of brass suted in the steeple and one saincts bell of brasse and ij hand bells for procession, and a sacryng bell of bras.

- DUNKIRK.** ST. SAVIOUR. 1 Bell.
- I., 27½-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1841 VILLE OF
DUNKIRK CHURCH KENT

The Vicar, Rev. W. J. Springett, tells me there are no local uses.

- DYMCHURCH.** SS. PETER AND PAUL. 3 Bells.
- I., 22-in. CH ○ MADE ○ ME ○ 1685 ○ ○ ○ ○
- II., 24-in. Same.
- III., 28-in. CHRISTOPHER ○ HODSON ○ MADE ○ ME ○ 1685
○ ○ ○ ○ ○

T. R. E. Item ij bells in the steeple.

According to Hasted there were five bells in his time (about 1800).

- EASTCHURCH.** ALL SAINTS. 5 Bells.
- I., 27½-in. IOHN WILNAR 1634
- II., 30-in. IOHN WILNER 1623
- III., 33½-in. IOHN WILNER 1623 WB
- IV., 36-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME 1605
- V., 40½-in. IOHN WILNER 1623

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Bell tolled for an hour—tenor (query) for adults, treble for children. Tellers at both beginning and end—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female. Repeated on morning of funeral.

Bell tolled for about an hour before burial.

Sunday uses. Treble bell rung at 8 a.m. for about five minutes (ancient "Matins" bell). Bells chimed for services only at present, being in bad ringing order, and about to undergo a general overhaul.

Very hearty thanks to the Rector, Rev. R. H. Dickson, for above notes, and also for permission to make the following extracts from the Parish Books :

1662-3	giuan to the ringers at tim ^e s and spent at sauarals	12s.	od.
1663-5	paid to Essex the Bel-hanger for new hanging our Belle	5 <i>li.</i>	2s.
	paid to Thomas Huggens y ^e wheeler for Tymber used about the Belle & worke done about the Church yard	3 <i>li.</i>	5s.
	paid to Richard Eglestone for iron worke done about the Belle & Church	3 <i>li.</i>	3s. 5 <i>d.</i>
	To Gregory Baylie for sawing		6s.
	ffor 5 new Bellropes	15s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	ffor oyle for the Belle		2s.
	paid more to Essex the Bellhanger in full of his worke	1 <i>li.</i>	3s. 4 <i>d.</i>
1665-6	for 5 new Bellropes	1 <i>li.</i>	1s. od.
	for Sallyes for the Beils		1s. 8 <i>d.</i>
1666-7	Item paid to John Atwater for a new wheele & other worke done about y ^e Belle	1 <i>li.</i>	4s.
	Item paid to the Wid ^r Manwaring for oyle		1s.
1667-8	for nayles and mending y ^e Belfry doore		8s. 11 <i>d.</i>
	for 5 Belropes weighing 28 ^{lb}		16s.
1668-9	It. for 5 Belropes weighing 30 ^{lb} Decemb ^r 22 ^d	1 <i>li.</i>	
	It. paid to Rich: Eagleston for work to y ^e Bells		5s. 8 <i>d.</i>
1669-70	It. payd to Thomas Huggins for mending a bell whele		8s. 8 <i>d.</i>
	It. for mending the Bells		7s. 6 <i>d.</i>
	It. more for mending the Bell		12s. 8 <i>d.</i>
1670-71	It. payd to Goodman Bromfild for a new whele & four days worke don to the bels	2 <i>li.</i>	

	It. to Yonge for 2 days worke to helpe him ...	2s.	8 <i>d.</i>
	It. for feching the Bell whele over	2s.	
	It. spent one the Bellhanger	2s.	
	It. for Ile		6 <i>d.</i>
	It. for wood vsed about y ^e bells	1s.	
	It. for 5 bells rops	13s.	6 <i>d.</i>
1671-2	Item for to horses & a man to fetch y ^e three bel whels ouer	4s.	
	Item for 4 new boards to make a petission between y ^e tener & third	4s.	
	Item for a pint and a $\frac{1}{2}$ of oile for y ^e bells ...	1s.	
	Item for a new seet of bell ropes	17s.	9 <i>d.</i>
	Item for three new bell wheels	3 <i>li.</i>	
	Item for catches & stays & for fower shivers and pins	19s.	
	Item for 5 days worcke for brumfeild and his son	1 <i>li.</i>	5s.
1672-3	Item for a horse & a man to fetch y ^e treble wheel ouer	2s.	
	Item for a quart of oile for y ^e bells	2s.	
	Item p ^d two Will brumfeild his yeares wages*	2 <i>li.</i>	
1675-6	paid to y ^e ringers agen pouder treason ...	2s.	
1676-7	paid to y ^e Ringers att severall times	5s.	3 <i>d.</i>
1677-8	spent upone y ^e ringers att severall times ...	11s.	6 <i>d.</i>
1683-4	Given to y ^e Ringers a gonpouder treson ...	2s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. paid to Richard Eaglestone for Ironworke & nailes about y ^e bells & other things ...	18s.	10 <i>d.</i>
1684-5	given to y ^e Ringers att y ^e crownation	5s.	
1685-6	It. spent upone the Ringers at seuerall tines ...	12s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. paid to wodgat for mending the bells ...	2s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. paid for new Ropes for y ^e bells	15s.	4 <i>d.</i>
1686-7	It. paid to Will ^m loue for 12 dayes worke and for som wood about the beles	1 <i>li.</i>	6s.
	It. given to the Ringears att severil times ...	7s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. paid for som lethers for y ^e belles	3s.	

* Appears regularly for some ten or twelve years, clearly an annual fee for looking after the bells and keeping them in order.

1687-8	paid to y ^e Ringars ffor seavarall times ringing	12s.	6d.
	paid to John Egelstone ffor Iorne worke be- longing to y ^e bells (etc.)	12s.	2d.
	paid ffor a sett of bellropes	1 <i>li.</i>	5s.
	paid ffor Leathare used att a bell	1s.	4d.
1688-9	Given to y ^e Ringers at three times	10s.	
	Spent att y ^e Coronation of King Will & Quen Mary on the Ringers & for beere att y ^e bonfier	1 <i>li.</i>	3s.
1689-90	paid for mending y ^e bells	11s.	
	Given to y ^e Ringers	5s.	
1691-2	Given to y ^e Ringers a gunpowder treson	5s.	
1692-3	paid for belrops	1 <i>li.</i>	
	Given to y ^e Ringers a crownation day	4s.	
	paid for fers for a bonfier & for beere att y ^e same time	1 <i>li.</i>	18s.
1694-5	paid for a bathreck for y ^e trebble	2s.	
	paid for Ringing y ^e Quens Knell	2s.	4d.
	paid to John Eaglestone for new working y ^e tenner claper & mending ye trebble claper & y ^e casment... ..	15s.	6d.
1695-6	paid for casting y ^e brases & new hanging y ^e five bells	6 <i>li.</i>	
	Spent in y ^e time of y ^e bells new hanging	5s.	
	paid for a new set of bellropes	15s.	
	paid for Bromfield for his Jorny over to vew y ^e bells & could not agree	5s.	
	Given to y ^e Ringers at severall times	11s.	
1696-7	paid to John Eaglestone for worke & nailes about y ^e Church & Bells att several times as appears by his bills	1 <i>li.</i>	16s. 6d.
1697-8	Given to the Ringers at the proclamacon for peace	5s.	
1699-1700	paid Mr Burges for a sett of Bell ropes	17s.	9d.
	paid Thomas Vidgen for 3 Batharicks	6s.	
	paid to Henary Lilly for worke aboute y ^e Bells for fetting of stufe from y ^e Key	14 <i>li.</i>	5s.

	paid M ^r Finch for a bond	...	...	...	3s.	6d.
	paid Thomas fox for worke dune in y ^e Bellfery				4s.	
1700-1	paid for a new set of Bellropes	...	...		17s.	6d.
1701-2	It. paid to Lilly for looking after y ^e bells one year at our Lady day 1702 it being ended*			1 <i>li</i> .		
	paid to Tho. Vigeon for a piece of sole leather for 4 th bell	...	...	...	4s.	
1702	Given to y ^e Ringers on y ^e Queen's Crownation day	...	...	...	5s.	
1704	Item paid John Egleston for mending a bell clapper & a lock	...	...	...	2s.	10d.
1706	Spent on y ^e Ringers on y ^e Union day being y ^e 1 st of May	...	...	...	10s.	
1707	Given y ^e Ringers on y ^e 29 th of May	...	...		5s.	
1712-13	Giueng to the Rengers apon Sand Gorge is day Geien to the Ringers more when pece was proclaimed	...	...	...	10s.	9d.
1714-15	Spent on y ^e Ringers when y ^e Arch-Deacon was here	...	...	...	5s.	
1716-17	Paid Tho: Vidgeon for a Bathrick for y ^e 5 th Bell	...	...	...	3s.	6d.
1724	Allowance had when y ^e Bell was Hanged	...			4s.	10d.
1725	Paid Jn ^o Beard for a new Set of Bell Ropes as ap ^{ts} by Bill	...	...	...	1 <i>li</i> .	6s. 6d.
1726	Paid Richard Loudon for Buteres for y ^e Bells				2s.	6d.
1728-9	p ^d for a Bathareck	...	...	...	2s.	6d.
1729-30	p ^d for a new set of Bell Ropes as pr bill	...		1 <i>li</i> .	6s.	
1730	p ^d Hen. Hills for $\frac{1}{2}$ a Year Looking after y ^e Bells†	...	...	...	10s.	6d.
1730-31	p ^d Jn ^o Beard for y ^e Bell Rops...	...	...	1 <i>li</i> .	6s.	
1732-3	for mending y ^e Bells clapper	...	...		6s.	
1733 to 1786	} No accounts for these years.					
1786-7	May 26 To M ^r Rouse for a set of Bell Ropes			1 <i>li</i> .	9s.	
1787	March 24 p ^d M ^r Rouse for Bellropes	...		1 <i>li</i> .	8s.	

* Occurs in later years regularly.

† Occurs again for some years in succession.

1795-6	Bell Ropes as pr bill	1 <i>l</i> .	11 <i>s</i> .	6 <i>d</i> .
	Paid M ^r Brett for M ^r Roust for Bell ropes ...	1 <i>l</i> .	9 <i>s</i> .	6 <i>d</i> .
1798-9	Paid Hodges for Leather for Bell		3 <i>s</i> .	6 <i>d</i> .
1799-1800	Paid Rouss Bell ropes	1 <i>l</i> .	11 <i>s</i> .	6 <i>d</i> .
1835	Claringbold as per Bill for a set of Bell Ropes	2 <i>l</i> .	15 <i>s</i> .	
1839	Similar entry	2 <i>l</i> .	13 <i>s</i> .	6 <i>d</i> .
1840	Paid Taylor for a new strap to a Bell... ..		2 <i>s</i> .	6 <i>d</i> .

There is very little information in this last book ; nearly all the payments are to so and so "as per bill."

EASTLING.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

I., 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in.	} R: PHELPS FECIT 1717	THO ^s MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1793
II., 27-in.		
III., 29-in.		
IV., 30-in.		
V., 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in.)		
VI., 36-in.	THE REVEREND D ^r : W ^m : WICKINS SEN: RECT: W ^m WICKINS IUN: CURAT DAN: KEMP CH: WARDEN R: PHELPS FECIT 1717	

Death-knell rung as soon as notice given. Tenor bell used for adults, 2nd for children. Commence with tellers 3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female ; then *chime* for twenty minutes, then raise bell and strike a few strokes, finish with tellers as at commencement. On morning of funeral at 8 a.m. the bell is raised, and after tellers, is rung for a quarter of an hour. Before the funeral the bell is tolled.

For services bells rung or chimed, usually the latter.

Peals rung on Easter morning, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and on New Year's Eve ; and occasionally during the winter months, but there is a difficulty in keeping a band of ringers. The following lines are on a board in the ringing chambers, and as they are unusual in this county, are worth printing here :

ARTICLES.

This is a bellfry that is free
And for all them that civil be
And if you choose to chime or ring
It is a very pleasant thing.

There is no music play'd or sung
Like unto bells when they're well rung
Then ring your bell well if you can
Silence is best for every man.

But if you ring in spur or hat
Sixpence you pay be sure of that
And if a bell you overthrow
Pray pay sixpence before you go.

EASTRY.

ST. MARY.

5 Bells.

- I., 35-in. Robert ☉ mot + made ☉ me ☉ 1584 ☉
 II., 37-in. * Johannes Clarke Hanc Fecit Campanam 1609
 WILLIAM IDLEY Z THOMAS WHITEFYLD CHURCH-
 WARDENS
 III., 40½-in. HENRY ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1629 ♦
 IV., 45-in. M^R THOMAS RAMMELL CHURCHWARDEN RICHARD
 PHELPS MADE ME 1734
 V., 49-in. THOMAS KITE WILLIAM FILPOTT CHURCH WARDENS ∴ ROBERT
 CATLIN FECIT 1740

Apparently no passing bell. "A knell" rung at funerals.

Sunday uses. The "matins" (8 a.m.) and "mass" (9 a.m.) bells were rung here until the early part of the present century, when the former was discontinued. At present a bell is rung at 8 a.m. for the early celebration, and the 9 o'clock bell has been shifted to 9.30. Unless this last is rung for any special purpose, it seems rather unmeaning—what one might call a case of strangled survival.

For other services bells chimed ten minutes, then fifteen minutes' pause, then chime five minutes, "toll in" on two bells ten minutes.

Peal rung on last night of year.

Wedding peals "sometimes."

A meadow near the church (now an orchard) was called "bell pasture" because one of the bells is said to have been cast there. This is doubtless a true tradition, and refers to the 2nd bell, the maker of which, John Clarke, was so eminently peripatetic over all the home counties, that the most careful researches have hitherto utterly failed in finding him a local habitation.

Best thanks to the Rev. W. F. Shaw, Vicar.

EASTWELL.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

- I., 29-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1842
 II., 31-in. Same.
 III., 33-in. Same.
 IV., 35-in. Same.
 V., 38-in. Same.
 VI., 43-in. THE REV^D PHILIP PARSONS RECTOR THOMAS DOBSON CHURCH
 WARDEN THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1794

T. R. E. Item in the steple iij bells and a lytle sanctus bell.

In 1758, according to Mr. Faussett, Eastwell had but three bells, thus inscribed :

- I. Joseph Hatch fecit me 1605
- II. Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis
- III. Iosephus Hatch fecit me 1653

This last is clearly wrong, either in name or date ; Joseph Hatch died in 1639.

In Hasted's time there were three bells—his date on this point is rather uncertain—probably they were the three mentioned by Faussett. In 1794 these three appear to have been exchanged for (or cast into) the present tenor, and Eastwell remained with this single bell until 1842, when the Earl of Winchilsea gave the present Nos. 1 to 5 at a cost of £295 8s. 2d.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. G. E. Gwynne.

EBONY.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I., 25½-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1805

T. R. E. Item iiii gret bells and a saunce bell.

Mem. "Stolen" . . . a hand bell.

EDENBRIDGE.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

6 Bells.

I., 31-in. IN SWEETEST SOUND LET EACH ITS NOTE REVEAL MINE SHALL
BE FIRST TO LEAD THE DULCET PEAL T MEARS & SON OF
LONDON FECIT 1807

II., 33½-in. WHEN FEMALE VIRTUE WEDS WITH MANLY WORTH WE CATCH
THE RAPTURE AND WE SPREAD IT FORTH T MEARS & SON
OF LONDON FECIT 1807

III., 34½-in. HEAR LET US PAUSE AND EACH WITH ONE ACCORD SALUTE
THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT IN THE LORD T MEARS & SON
OF LONDON FECIT 1807

IV., 36-in. SHOULD BATTLE RAGE AND HOSTILE FOES CONTENTD WE HAIL
THE VICTOR WHEN HES BRITAINS FRIEND T MEARS & SON
OF LONDON FECIT 1807

V., 39-in. MAY PEACE AND PLENTY SMILE ON ALBIONS SHORE AND WARS
DIRE TUMULT CEASE FOR EVERMORE T MEARS & SON OF
LONDON FECIT 1807

VI., 43-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1813

In ringing the death knell the age is denoted by the bell used—tellers 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female. A bell tolled at funerals.

Sunday uses rather elaborate—7 a.m. (“Matins” bell), 8 a.m. (“Mass” bell). Sermon bell at 9 a.m. and again at 2. Bell again at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Can these last be survivals of the old mid-day “Angelus” and evening “Ave” bells, or is the former “a dim recollection” of the Sanctus bell at high mass?

Wedding peals. Bell rung for vestry meetings.

Ringings on festivals under Vicar’s direction.

The cost of the peal recast in 1807, according to the parish books, was about £180.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. C. F. Gore.

EGERTON.

ST. JAMES.

6 Bells.

I., 27-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1759

II., 29-in. Same.

III., 31-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME ① 1602

IV., 34-in. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD ↔ LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1759

V., 36-in. ROB[—] HOPE AND THO[—] WILDESH C W 1717

VI., 39-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME ② 1602

SP RB

T. R. E. Item in the stepyll v bellys

Item a bell *over the quier* (No doubt the Sanctus bell.)

. . . hand bells.

PASSING BELL.—Tenor tolled thirty minutes, then raised and rung thirty minutes; tellers at finish, 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female.

FUNERALS.—A knell rung at 7 a.m., each bell in turn being made to speak seven times. This is done three times for a male, twice for a female. Then tenor raised and rung half-pulls for an hour, with two fifteen-minute intervals of silence. A bell tolled for an hour before the service.

SUNDAYS.—Sermon bell at 8 a.m. (2nd and tenor) and again at noon (2nd only). Bells chimed half an hour before service.

Peals on Christmas morning and on New Year’s Eve.

A bell rung for Easter Vestry.

There is a bequest called the Bell-rope Charity, no doubt an endowment for ropes.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. F. R. Mercer.

ELHAM.

ST. MARY.

8 Bells.

- I., 28-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1763
 II., 29-in. Same.
 III., 30-in. Same.
 IV., 32½-in. Same.
 V., 34-in. Same. JOHN POTTER BELLHANGER
 VI., 36-in. Same.
 VII., 41-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT. ROB WESTFIELD
 & JOHN HORTON CHURCHWARDENS 1809
 VIII., 45-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1763
 T. R. E. Item v great belles.

In 1757-8 Mr. Bryan Faussett notes here "5 heavy bells all made by John Wilnar in y^e year 1659." These doubtless came from the church of St. Mary at Sandwich, local tradition preserving the record of the transfer; their date, however, was 1639, not 1659; the entry of the payment for their casting is given in Boys' "History of Sandwich," and will be noticed in connection with that town and church. At present the frame is in bad order and the bells can only be chimed. I am sorry to see that the reprehensible practice of "clocking" has been introduced. The sooner it is discontinued the better for the bells.

Death knell as soon as notice received. Toll one hour—tenor bell for adults, other smaller bells for children according to age. Tellers 3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female at end of knell. This is repeated at 8 a.m. on day of burial, only the bell is "pulled up," not tolled.

Sundays—a bell chimed at 8 a.m. ("Matins" bell).

There is a local tradition as to No. 7, that it was sent here by mistake for Wye, and that the Wye people have got the Elham bell.

ELMLEY.

ST. JAMES.

1 Bell.

- I., 18-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1854

ELMSTEAD.

ST. JAMES.

6 Bells.

- I., 27-in. IOHN WAYLETT FECIT ○ ○ ○ 1721 ○ ○ ○ ○
 II., 28½-in. IOHN WAYLETT FECIT ○ ○ 1721 ○ ○ ○
 III., 31-in. ST IAMES ▯ ▯ S ▯ K 1721 ▯ ▯ ▯

IV., 33½-in. IOHN WAYLETT FECIT 1721

V., 35-in. Same.

VI., 40-in. CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1783

T. R. E. Item iiij bells in the steeple and iiij small hand bells.

No local uses. The bells were rehung at the expense of Sir J. W. Honywood, Bart., some five years ago; prior to this there had been no ringing for many years, and the old ringers dying out meanwhile, the old uses passed into oblivion.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. A. Collett.

ELMSTONE.

DEDICATION UNKNOWN.

3 Bells.

I., 27-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1808

II., 28½-in. MR: WILLIAM GIBBS CHVRCH WARDEIN RICHARD PHELPS FECIT 1712 ❀

III., 31½-in. MR: WILLIAM GIBBS CHVRCH WARDEIN RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1712 ❀ + ❀

In 1758 the treble was like the other two.

ELTHAM.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

6 Bells.

I., 27½-in. THO^s NOYES & W^m GLAZBROOK CH. WARDENS 1794 THO^s MEARS OF LONDON FECIT

II., 29-in. Same.

III., 30½-in. Same.

IV., 32½-in. Same.

V., 34½-in. Same.

VI., 37½-in. THE REV^d I KENYARD SHAW VICAR THO^s NOYES & W^m GLAZBROOK CHURCH WARDENS 1794 THO^s MEARS OF LONDON FECIT

T. R. E. Item iij great bells in the steeple and a saunt's bell of brasse.

Death knell tolled within twelve hours after death. Tellers at end only—
3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.

Bell tolled at funeral.

Bells chimed for service.

Peals on Easter Day, Christmas Day, Ascension Day, Whitsun Day, Feast of Patron Saint, and Harvest Festival. Also on New Year's Eve and Queen's birthday.

Many thanks to Vicar, the Rev. W. J. Sowerby.

The following entries from "A Booke of the accountes off the Church Wardens called a Ledgere begininge the xij day of July in the yeare of our Lorde Gode 1554," were copied by Mr. Tyssen several years ago :

1554	the charges of the ij bells Sum ^a	ixs.	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid to Robert Esbruke for takinge downe of the belle and hanginge of hir upe agayne and trussinge of the great bell	iiij <i>s</i> .	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item for wainge of the same bell		vii <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid for makinge of the oblygatione		xx <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid for carringe of the bell into South- warke		v <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid for carringe of the bell unto the bell fownders to Henry Scrockeson (Church Warden)	ij <i>s</i> .	vii <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid for brininge home of the bell	iiij <i>s</i> .	
	Item paid for our charges for ij days warke	iiij <i>s</i> .	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid for on hondrethe and a hault and vij <i>℥</i> . of mettell for y ^e bell a iiij <i>℥</i> . the <i>℥</i>	lviiij <i>s</i> .	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid to the bell founnder for castinge the bell Sum ^a vij <i>℥</i> . i <i>s</i> . v <i>℥</i> .	iiij <i>℥</i> .	vii <i>s</i> .
	Item paid to Bourne for makinge of the bell clapper and for irone for the same	vs.	
1556-7	Item paid to the rope maker for a bauldricke for the great bell	ij <i>s</i> .	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item paid to John Bourne sen ^r for makinge of the great bell clappir and the little bell clapp ^r and spike for the carpinter for the dogge one the newe beame and ij forlocke for the great belle over and besides xiiij <i>℥</i> . of ould irone that he had of the p ^r ishe for ij laye upon them	vs.	
	Item paid to ould Bourne for makinge of a bauldricke viij <i>℥</i> . for hault a hyd of white leathers xx <i>℥</i>	ij <i>s</i> .	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	Item pd to the same man for new boults of iron spike and chekes w th a newe bucllee for the bell clapp ^r and diu ^r se othe things occupied about the great bell	iiij <i>s</i> .	iiij <i>℥</i> .

	Item p ^d to Mills carpinter of Bexley for takinge downe of the great belle doune and new hang- inge of hire vpe and mendinge of the bell whill*	iijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Item geven to the men that did helpe take downe the bell and hange hire againe in bread and drinke		iiij <i>d.</i>
	Item paid for grease for the bells		ij <i>d.</i>
	Item the iij day of Decemb' 1557 for a new clapper for the greate belle wayinge xlvj <i>l.</i> a iiij the pounce	xvs.	
1558	Imprimis paid the ij day of May to Hunte the carpentere for the makinge of a wheele for the littelle belle	ijs.	vj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid more to the smithe for mendinge of the sturpe to the same bell		iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. laid oute for boordes that I had of M ^r East for to mend the whell of the littell belle and the fremes besides		xij <i>d.</i>
1559	Itm. paid for a bauldricke for the great bell ...		xij <i>d.</i>
1560	Receaved of John Bourne for the broken bell claper		viiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a bauldricke for the great bell ...		xvj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a pine for the baldricke		j <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for the clapper for the littell bell ...		vj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid to John Petley for makinge a whell for the sayd bell	xviiij <i>d.</i>	
	Itm. paid for a pine for the baldricke		j <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for candells that was brent at the hang- inge of the bell whill		j <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for mendinge the sturpe of the bell whille		j <i>d.</i> ob.
1561	Item paid for gresse for the bells		j <i>d.</i>
1562	Imprimis paid for a crosse bare for the meadle bell		vj <i>d.</i>

* An unintelligible word follows, apparently "wergrart," which may mean "where cracked;" I can think of no other explanation.

	Itm. paid for naylles to mend the bells and y ^e churche gate	vjd.
	Itm. paid to John Petley for hanginge the great bell faste	xd.
	Itm. paid for ij folke to helpe the carpinter ...	xvj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for ij baudes for the bells while ...	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a crosbar for the bell	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for naylles for the belles	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a plate for the great bell whill ...	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for greasse for the belles	j <i>d.</i>
	Itm. pay for naylles and mendinge the great bell whell	iiij <i>d.</i>
1563	Itm. paid for making an J for the great bell claper	iijs. iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for a crosse bare for the great bell ...	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for naylles to mende the bell whells	j <i>d.</i>
1564	Itm. paid to John Petley for mendinge the belles	xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for shutting the storupe of the great bell	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a staye for the great bell whelle ...	vjd.
	Itm. paid for a bell clapper	iijs. iiij <i>d.</i>
1565	Itm. paid for half a hyde of whit leather to mend and for to make the bauldricke when they have neade	ijjs. ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid to John Bourne for a bare for the great bell	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for brades to mend the belles ...	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a bucelle and a pine for the greate bell	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for makinge a bauldricke for the great bell	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for ij keyes for the belles	j <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a pounce of candelles at the hang- inge of the belles	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paide for tallow for the bells	j <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a stapelle for the great bell ...	j <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a pine for the great belles bauld- ricke	j <i>d.</i>

1566	Itm. paid for spykes for the belles and mending the sturrupes for the bells and mendinge the keyes	vjd.
	Itm. paid for tallow for the belles of All Sayns even	jd.
	Itm. paid to John Petley for ij days worke for mending the belles	ijs.
	Itm. paid to John Bourne for a dayes work at the mending y ^e belles	xd.
	Itm. paid to Henri Stubbs fo a dayes worke at the mending y ^e belles	xd.
	Itm. paid for a noo J for the great bell claper to John Borne	iijs. iiijd.
1567	Itm. paid to John Bourne fo makinge of a bawldricke and mending another bawldricke for the belles	vjd. viijd.
	Itm. for making ij new bawldrickes	
	Itm. paid for whit lether to make the bald- ricke of	xd.
	Itm. paid for mending the fore bell claper ...	iiijd.
	Itm. paid for sope for the belles	ijd.
	Itm. paid for a new J for the medell bell ...	ijs.
1568	Itm. paid for ij new bawldrickes & mending on bawldrick for belles	iijd.
	Itm. paid for drinke for the Ringeres at ij times when the Queene cam throw the towne ...	viijd.
	Itm. paid for sope for the belles	jd.
	Itm. paid for mending the belles and the church stille	iiijd.
	Itm. paid for haulf a hid of whit lether and mend- inge the great bell bauldricke	ijs.
1569	Itm. paid to John Petley for iiij dayes worke for mendinge the great belle whelle	iijs. ix d.
	Itm. paid to Willm Hamshire for ij dayes worke for the same	xvj d.
	Itm. paid to John Bourne for bare to beare the bell	ijs. iiij d.

	Itm. paid to John Boure for laing the pine for the bell	v <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid to John Boure for mendinge the strowp for y ^e bell	v <i>d.</i>
1570	Itm. receaved of the wardens of the xv* peny for the pament of the amendinge of the to belles vij <i>l.</i> and paid by vs vij <i>l.</i>	
	Itm. paid for the charges of the ij belles above the s ⁿ i of vij <i>l.</i> as apeareth by a bille ...	lvs. vij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for mendinge the beares for the medell bell	v <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for brodes	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for iij keyes	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid to John Petle e John Bourne for a dayes worke a peac for to hang the middlee bell	ij <i>s.</i>
	Itm. paid for sope for the bells	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for nayelles for the bell while ...	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for mendinge the storope of the bell	ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for mending the fore bell while ...	v <i>d.</i>
1571	Itm. paid for mendinge a bauldricke	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for castinge of the ij belles to the churchwardens vij <i>l.</i>	
1572	Itm. paid for mendinge the great bells bauldricks	v <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for soppe for bells	j <i>d.</i>
1573	Itm. paid for a bauldricke for the for bell ...	xiiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for a bauldricke for the medell bell ...	xiiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid John Bourne for makinge the fore bell claper	iijs.
1574	Itm. paid for mendinge the medell bell whell the same then did reinge for the coronation of the quen	ij <i>d.</i>
1575	Itm. paid for mendinge the great bell bauldryck & for sope for the bells	v <i>d.</i>

* Lands so called.

1576	Itm. for mendinge the great bells baudryke and for brods change in the stocke	xx <i>d.</i>
	For candells for the ringers	<i>d.</i>
	Itm. paid for helpinge to truse the great bell ...	v <i>d.</i>
	payd to John Bourne for iron & worke ...	ij <i>s.</i> iiij <i>d.</i>
	payd for help to hang y ^e belles	xij <i>d.</i>
	payd for sope for belles	ij <i>d.</i>
1577	Itm. payd for y ^e bel claper	vij <i>s.</i>
1578	Itm. paide for a baudricke for y ^e great bell and a pinne of iron	xx <i>d.</i>
	Itm. myne owne labour aboute y ^e rearinge of y ^e bellfree lofte	xij <i>d.</i>
1579	Payed for one pounce of gresse for the bells ...	<i>d.</i>
	Payd unto Willm Roop and unto Willm Brog- mington for helping of John Petley about the bells	xx <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd unto the Ringers on the coronation daye	ij <i>s.</i> v <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payed for a haelf one pound of sope for the bells	ij <i>d.</i>
1580	pd for mendinge of y ^e roller of the bell and for ij inc nailes	v <i>d.</i>
	pd to John Dardon for soderinge of o ^r middell bell	xv <i>s.</i>
	pd for a sacke of coales... ..	xij <i>d.</i>
	pd to Richard Borne for iron worke for y ^e bell	iiij <i>s.</i>
	pd to Anthony Nott and for helpinge of him to hang the bell	ij <i>s.</i> iiij <i>d.</i>
	Spent in charges at the takinge down of the bell Some xxiiij <i>s.</i> iiij <i>d.</i>	xij <i>d.</i>
	November pd to the Ringers the xvij daie of Nou y ^e w ^h is called Coronation daie ...	ij <i>s.</i> v <i>d.</i>
	Spent more in charges on the ringers	vs. vij <i>d.</i>
	pd to Richard Boure for iron work for the belles	xv <i>d.</i>
	pd to John Petle and John Centleman for mend- inge the two wheles of y ^e bells	x <i>d.</i>

	for nailles for the wheles		<i>ijd.</i>
	for sope for the belles		<i>jd.</i>
1581	pd to Thomas Clerke for makinge a new whele unto y ^e fore bell	<i>ijs.</i>	<i>iiijd.</i>
	for grease for the belles		<i>iijd.</i>
	pd for ij bwdrex for the belles	<i>iijs.</i>	<i>iiijd.</i>
	pd for greces for the belles		<i>jd.</i>
	pd to the Ringers the xvij day of November ...	<i>iijs.</i>	
	pd more to the Ringers in charges	<i>iijs.</i>	<i>ijd.</i>
	pd unto John Petle for mending the wyell of the bell		<i>vjd.</i>
1582	pd for grece for the bells		<i>jd.</i>
	for nayles to mende the bell wheeles with other necessaries		<i>vjd.</i>
	Itm. for sope & nayles for the bells		<i>iiijd.</i>
	17 November Itm. laid out the same day to the Ringers beinge then in remembrance of Coronation day	<i>ixs.</i>	<i>vjd.</i>
1583	Itm. for takinge downe the bell and all other charges þtayninge to y ^t only excepted the Founderes wages as by a bill of þticulars may appear in toto... ..	<i>xxxvijs.</i>	<i>vjd.</i>
	Itm. for a pound of sope for the bells		<i>iijd. ob.</i>
	Itm. laid owt for mending the great bell clapper and the middell bell clapper w th the charges to the same belonging	<i>xiijs.</i>	<i>iiijd.</i>
	Itm. paid to the carpenters for worke aboute the bells	<i>vs.</i>	<i>iiijd.</i>
	Itm. paid more the same time to Rich Borne for iron work abowte the bells	<i>ijs.</i>	<i>iiijd.</i>
	It. payd to the Bell founder for casting the bell	<i>iiij/z.</i>	<i>xs.</i>
	It. for mending the bell clappe ^r charges in going		<i>vjs.</i>
	It. for grease waxe & sope against the ringing daye for the bells		<i>iiijd.</i>
	It. in charges on the Coronation day for the ringers... ..		<i>xvs.</i>

	Receyed gathered of the þishe for the bell ...	xxijs.
1585	paied to the Collermaker of Leawsam for a bawdricke for the great bell	iijs.
	paied to John Peatly for mendinge the great bell wheall & for nayles	xviijs.
	paid for towe bell ropes	iijs. vjd.
1586	paied for a bell rope for the great bell... ..	xviijs.
	paied to John Petlye for stokeing y ^e great bell	iijs.
	paied to Richard Bourne for makinge the iorones for the great bell stocke	iijs.
	paied for breade & drynke for them that did helpe up & down with the bell	ixd.
	paied for soppe	jd.
	paied for Goodman Leayses helpe	ijs.
1587	paid for a bell rope at the crownation daie last 1587	xxd.
	paied to Rycard Bouren for nayles and a buckell for the newe bawdricke and for mending the yornes of the great bell	xijd.
1588	paied for mendinge a bawdricke for y ^e fore bell	vjd.
	paied for a bawdricke for the fore bell	ijs.
	paid for a bell rope for the great bell	xvjd.
	paied to Goodman Petley for settinge the greate bell faste in the stocke & for John Aleays helping of him	ijs.
	paied for a bell rope for the myddell bell ...	xixd.
1589	Also allowed backe by Thomas Roper for the bell ropes aforesayd	ixs. vjd.
1590	paid for the grett bell clapper	xs.
	paid for brades & nayles for the stocke & for the whell for the great bell	viijs.
	paid for brede & drynk for lettyng down & tak- ying y ^t up agayne	vjd.
	paid to John Pettly for mending of the stock of the gret bell for ij dais worke	ijs. iiijd.
	paid to Richard Boure for ieren work for the stoke of the bell at the same tyme	xixd.

	paid to Goodman Astell & goodman Yonge for helping of the bell when it was taken down & sett up agayne at the same tyme	xviij <i>d.</i>
	paid for grece for the bell	ij <i>d.</i>
	paid for makyng of the whelle for the grett bell	ij <i>s.</i>
	paid to Richard Bourt for his paynes for carying of the claper of the grett bell to Dedford & for helping of the bell at the same tyme ...	xij <i>d.</i>
	paid to John Homffere the carpenter for mak- inge of the whell for the great belle & for fyndyng of the stoufe belongen the ^r to & also for lokyng to the same bell for one year ...	xs.
	paid for a rope for one of the belles	xvj <i>d.</i>
	paid for a sturrupe & a steý for the gret bell & for brads	ij <i>s.</i>
	paid to Richard Bourne for brads & keys for the belles	xij <i>d.</i>
	paid to Goodman Astell for helping the car- penter at the same daye	viiij <i>d.</i>
	paid for ij dais helping downe of the bells & up agayne for brede & drynke the same daye ...	xij <i>d.</i>
	paid for Grece for the belles the same tyme ...	ij <i>d.</i>
1591	paid to John Homfrey for the mendyng of ij belles	xviij <i>d.</i>
	paid for mendyng of the bell whelle a pound of nayles	j <i>d.</i>
	paid for the grett belles clapper	viiiij <i>d.</i>
	paid to Dickson for makyng of the grett bell whell	vijs.
	paid to goodman Wykes for keyes & naylles for the grett belle	ij <i>s.</i> ij <i>d.</i>
	paid for a new baderik for the grette bell ...	ij <i>s.</i> xd <i>d.</i>
	paid for a pownd of grece for the belles ...	j <i>d.</i>
	paid for a badereke for one of the belles ...	ij <i>s.</i> ix <i>d.</i>
1592	paid for mendinge of the greatt bell clapper ...	xij <i>d.</i>

The following entries also occur in another book :

1610	The carigge of the grete belle to be newe caste M Morrte bell fownder dwellinge in white cappell wethe owte Allgate being agreed wethall for v ^l . and to deliver ett at the Wate that he recefed itt att that wass ix hundred and a hallefe and att the recessing of the bell backeagane it waied iij.xv. and vij <i>l</i> . more then it ded before there was iij.xv. and iij <i>l</i> . att viij <i>d</i> . the pownd and iij <i>l</i> . at ijs. v <i>d</i> . the pownd being called ten and tenglaes* the holle som is vij <i>l</i> . xs. paied for carreing and brenging home of the grete bell from white cappell wethe owte alle gate xs. paied att London brege for towle and att All gate x <i>d</i> .
1617-8	Payed for boollinge† of the greet bell clapper vijs. payed for mending of ij baldricks ... x <i>d</i> . payed for owting of the clapperes ... js. payed for xij wedges for the stockes of the Belles x <i>d</i> . payed att the Warboeues for waeing of the grett bell <i>twies</i> the first waiett waes ix ^c iij qwa'tres and xx <i>l</i> . ij <i>l</i> . and a hallef more of the mettell waes att the Bell fownderes the second waiett or draeft waes viij ^c iij quarteres and vj <i>l</i> . the ij of Aprell 1618 viijs. Payed att London bredg for tolle ... viij <i>d</i> . payed two workmene att the taking downe of the bell and for lodding the same tow the Cartte and from the Carte iijs. v <i>d</i> . payed tow Rechard Cleaywood the ij day of aprell 1618 for carreing and fetching of the great bell tow and from Howenesdich ... xs. v <i>d</i> .

* "Tinglass" = Bismuth.

† Qy. "balling," i.e., putting a new ball or hammering the old one into shape.

payed the iiij th day of Aprill 1618 tow Thomas Wode bellwhele carpenter for towneringe all the iij belles faisted in the stockes ...	xxs.	
payed for all owre expences there att Lowndone for three dayes attending one the belle and the fownder 1618 ...	xxixs.	iiij ^d .
10 Aprill 1618 p ^d to Wm Land belfounder in full payment of v ^l . for casting the great bell ...	v ^l i.	
pd to M ^r Waren for making the bond from the belfounder & his surety for the warranting the bell for a year & a day ...	ijs.	
payed for mending of the meddell belles clapper		x ^d .
payed for a pinte of oyle for the belles ...		vj ^d .

ELTHAM.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

Church built 1869, has presumably one bell of that date.

ST. PETER.

1 Bell.

Built 1871, has presumably one bell of about that date.

CHRIST CHURCH, SHOOTER'S HILL.

1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

ERITH.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

8 Bells.

I., 28-in.	MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1882
II., 29-in.	Same.
III., 30-in.	JAMES MARSH CH.WARDEN 1763 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT
IV., 32-in.	MRS: CORNELIA BATEMAN GAVE 100 ^{LB} TOWARDS THESE BELLS
V., 34½-in.	JAMES MARSH CH. WARDEN 1763 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT
VI., 37-in.	1703 : R : PHELPS : FECIT (Rest of inscription defaced.)
VII., 41-in.	Same as Nos. I. and II.
VIII., 44½-in.	JAMES MARSH CH:WARDEN 1763 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT

The former No. 7 was by R. Phelps, dated 1703.

T. R. E. Item iij bells suted of brasse in the steple and one litle bell of brasse.

Death knell tolled "at any hour convenient." Tellers at end only— 3×3 for a man, 3×2 for woman, 3×1 for child.

At funerals, tenor tolled when funeral procession comes in sight.

On Sundays bells rung for morning service, and sometimes for evening.

Peals on New Year's Eve only.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. T. W. Hardy.

ERITH.

CHRIST CHURCH.

1 Bell.

Presumably only one modern bell.

EWELL.

SS. PETER & PAUL.

1 Bell, formerly 3.

I., 30-in. *ioseph hatch made me* 1603

There were formerly three bells—one was sold in 1821, being probably cracked and useless; of the inscription on this no record remains. Another was sold in 1859; it was 33 inches in diameter, and bore the following inscription:

ioseph hatch made me 1610

This was also cracked. The barbarous local custom of striking the bells with a hammer at weddings and on other festive occasions is, so the Vicar writes, probably the initial cause of the disappearance of these two bells.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice of death is received. Bell tolled (minute strokes) for an hour. Tellers at beginning only— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman, none for children.

On day of funeral minute strokes from 7 to 8 a.m., and again for fifteen minutes before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Bell rung for about fifteen minutes before services; bell also rung at 10 a.m. for about five minutes, called "Warning Bell."

Bell rung for vestry meetings.

The sale of the cracked bell in 1821 is noted in the parish books, thus:

Mr St Newing makes up his account with the

Parish of Ewell, April 19th, 1821. Received

of W^m Pitt for a church bell £14 17s. 0d.

The later sale in 1859 is also entered :

To cash received for Church Bell that was
cracked and sold by the recommendation of
Archdeacon Croft £50 14s. 2d.

While in the expenditure for this year occurs :

July 12	Carriage of Church Bell to Dover Station	...	5s.
Dec. 31	Carriage of Church Bell per rail to London		
	Bridge...	... ..	5s. 2d.
	Postage Stamps & incidental expenses attending		
	the sale of bell	... ..	5s.

Best thanks to the Rev. J. Turnbull, Vicar.

EYNSFORD.

ST. MARTIN.

6 Bells.

I., 28-in. THE G^T OF LAD^V DYKE I HARWOOD T COLLINS CH
W^S R^T CATLIN FECIT 1748.

II., 28½-in. IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1674 ♣ ○ ○ C H
○ ○ ○ ○ ♣
♣ THOMAS ♠ KINGSLAND ♠ AND ♠ THOMAS ♠ HAY-
WORD ♠ C ♠ WARDENS

III., 31-in. MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME 1651
H E

IV., 33-in. MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME 1651
T T

V., 36-in. IOHN HAYWARD THOMAS COLLINS CHURCH WAR-
DENS 1746
THOMAS LESTER OF LONDON MADE ME

VI., 39-in. ♣ IOHN * HODSON * MADE * ME * 1674 * ○ ○ ○
○ ○ ○ ♣ C H ♣ ○ ○ ○
♣ THOMAS * KINGSLAND * THOMAS * HAYWARD
* C * WARDENS ♣

T. R. E. First, iij bells suted of bras in the steple.

Death knell rung as soon as notice received (but not at night). Commence with tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female ; on tenor for adults, treble for children. Then minute strokes for an hour.

Knell repeated half an hour before funeral. Tellers as above, then toll, quickening as the procession approaches the church.

SUNDAY MORNINGS.—One or more bells chimed for five minutes at 8 a.m. For services bells either chimed or rung—usually the latter—"tolling in" on treble.

Bells in good order and well cared for, but some of them want quarter turning badly.

Many thanks to the intelligent Parish Clerk, whose name I regret I did not take.

EYTHORNE.

SS. PETER & PAUL.

3 Bells.

- I., 30-in. ioseph hatch made me ☉ 1622
 II., 33½-in. Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis ∇ ⊕ ∇
 III., 36-in. Women Magdalena Campana Secret Melodie
 ∇ ⊕ ∇

The two larger bells are by Henry Jordan, of London. See p. 44. The stamps are Figs. 25, 26, and 27.

FAIRFIELD.

ST. THOMAS A'BECKET.

3 Bells.

- I., 22½-in. + Ihs ∇
 II., 23½-in. + Ihs ∇
 III., 25-in. + Sancte Andree Ora Pro Nobis □ ∇

Of these three bells only the treble is usable, the other two are badly cracked. See pp. 31 and 33 for account of them. The initial crosses on all three are alike, viz., Fig. 14. The foundry-stamp on Nos. 1 and 2 is Fig. 13. The stamps on the 3rd bell are Figs. 18 and 17.

T. R. E. Item in the steeple iij small bells.

Mem: Sold . . . one handbell and a sacryng bell.

FARLEIGH (EAST).

? DEDICATION.

3 Bells.

- I., 30-in. ✠ IOHN * HODSON * MADE * ME * 1674 ○ ○ CH
 ○ ○ THOMAS * SIMES * IOHN * FVLLER *
 CHVRCH * W ✠
 II., 31½-in. ioseph hatch made me ☉ 1610
 WATER
 III., 33½-in. ioseph hatch made me ☉ 1615

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received.

A bell tolled at 8 on morning of funeral, and again before service.

Bells rung for Sunday services.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. Canon Elwyn.

FARLEIGH (WEST).

ALL SAINTS.

3 Bells.

- I., 26-in. *william hatch made me I L C W 1655*
 II., 28-in. *TPM 16 STA CW*
 III., 29-in. *IOHN IOHNSON CHVRCH O WARDEN*
 O O O O O SAM O NEWTON O AND O I PEELE O
 MADE O MEE 1705

Part of the inscription on No. 2 is illegible. The bell is by Thomas Palmar.

FARNBOROUGH.

ST. GILES THE ABBOT.

2 Bells.

- I., 11-in. 1664
 II., 28½-in. ♣ IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1667 ♣ W H ♣ ♣ ♣
 T. R. E. Item iij bells suted of brass in the steeple.

FARNINGHAM.

SS. PETER & PAUL.

5 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. ♣ SR ♠ IC ♠ KNT ♣ ♠ IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠
 1656
 II., 30¼-in. *JOS. COX & W^M JESSUP. CH. WARDENS PACK & CHAPMAN*
 OF LONDON FECIT 1772
 III., 32-in. *DAVID ♠ CRVTTELL ♠ CW ♠ IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE*
 ♠ ME ♠ 1656
 IV., 34½-in. ♠ T ♠ C ♠ YOVMAN ♠ R ♠ B ♠ YOVMAN ♠ D ♠ C ♠ C ♠ W ‡
 I ‡ H ‡ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1656
 V., 38½-in. *THOMAS CHAPMAN EDWARD LOXLEY CHURCH*
 WARDENS ROBT CATLIN ♠ FECIT 1748 ♠

T. R. E. Item iij bells suted in the steeple.

No peculiar uses.

FAVERSHAM.

ST. MARY OF CHARITY.

8 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. *R^T CATLIN 1748*
 II., 29½-in. Same.
 III., 31½-in. *RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS 1882*
 IV., 33½-in. *R C 1748*
 V., 37-in. *THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1797*
 VI., 38-in. *ROBERT CATLIN CAST US ALL 1748*
 VII., 42½-in. *R C 1748*
 VIII., 46½-in. *MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1872*

The former tenor bore the following inscription :

ROB^T LUKYN ESQ^R MAYOR RICH^D MARSH VICAR STEP^N ROSE HEN^Y
COBB CH WARDENS ROB^T CATLIN FECIT 1748

Passing bell tolled immediately after death. Tellers— 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female—sixth bell used. The same bell is generally tolled at funerals, but occasionally a muffled peal is rung.

Bells (6th, 7th, and tenor) usually chimed for Sunday services, but rung sometimes. Peals on Easter Day, Christmas Day, and last night of year. Also on Queen's birthday, Coronation day, Lord Mayor's day (Qy. Prince of Wales' birthday), and 5th November.

There is an endowment from Smith's Charity of 5s. to each ringer, conditional upon the bells being rung on Christmas Eve (which, if the above particulars be absolutely correct, they are not).

Best thanks to the Rev. C. E. Donne, Vicar.

FAWKHAM.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I., 25-in. ROBERTVS ❀ MOT ❀ ME ❀
FECIT 1604

T. R. E. Item ij bells of brasse suted in the steple on hand bell of brasse
for the procession.

Item on bell called the sacryng bell of brasse.

FOLKESTONE.

SS. MARY & EANSWYTHE.

8 Bells.

I., 29-in. GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH
II., 30-in. AND IN EARTH PEACE GOODWILL TOWARD MEN
III., 32-in. WE PRAISE THEE
IV., 35-in. WE BLESS THEE
V., 38-in. WE WORSHIP THEE
VI., 40-in. WE GLORIFY THEE
VII., 45-in. WE GIVE THANKS TO THEE
MATTHEW WOODWARD MA VICAR
CHARLES JAMES CHAPMAN CHURCHWARDEN
JAMES HARRISON CONDUCTOR
VIII., 51-in. O LAMB OF GOD THAT TAKEST AWAY THE SINS
OF THE WORLD HAVE MERCY UPON US

This ring, cast by Messrs. Taylor & Co., of Loughborough, in 1879, replace a former ring of the same number, which were inscribed as follows :

- I., 30½-in. ALTHOUGH I AM BOTH LIGHT AND SMALL I WILL BE HEARD
ABOVE YOU ALL PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
1778
- II., 32-in. I MEAN TO MAKE IT UNDERSTOOD THAT THOUGH I AM LITTLE
YET I AM GOOD PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
1778
- III., 34-in. THOMAS BAKER ESQ^R MAYOR JOHN MAYCOCK CH. WARDEN
JACOB STREDWICK SIDESMAN T MEARS OF LONDON
FECIT 1813
- IV., 37-in. WHILE THUS WE JOIN IN CHEERFUL SOUND MAY LOVE AND
LOYALTY ABOUND PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
1778
- V., 40½-in. OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFUL SOUND MAKE HILLS AND
VALLEYS ECHO ROUND PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
FECIT
- VI., 42-in. Same as No. III.
- VII., 44½-in. IN WEDLOCK BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH HANDS YOUR
HEARTS UNITE
SO SHALL OUR TUNEFULL TONGUES COMBINE TO LAUD THE
NUPTIAL RITE
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1778
- VIII., 51-in. JOHN BINFIELD AND THOMAS CASTLE CHURCHWARDENS 1778
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT

In 1758 Mr. Faussett notes here six bells, thus inscribed :

I. and III. William Dixon and William Spain Ch: Wardens Lester &
Pack of London 1759

II. and IV. R. Phelps fecit me. M^r Lytcott and M^r Tho Bayley C W
1737

V. Richard Phelps made me 1707 Tho: Holmes John Fearn C W

VI. Edward Hammond and John Castle C W 1724 J.W.

The curfew bell was rung here until 1860.

Death knell rung. Tellers—3 for a male, 4 for a female (Qy. 3 × 3 and 2 × 2 respectively).

A muffled peal rung at the funeral of a ringer, or a member of the royal family.

SUNDAYS.—Bells rung for morning service, chimed for evensong.

On last night of year the old year is tolled out, and at midnight the new one rung in.

Tenor bell tolled on Good Friday.

Peals rung at weddings, and repeated in the evening.

Peals on dedication festival, on Queen's birthday, and at the election of the Mayor.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. M. Woodward.

FOLKESTONE. CHRIST CHURCH. 1 Bell.

A modern bell.

HOLY TRINITY. 8 Bells.

A peal of eight modern bells.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST. 1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS. 1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

ST. PETER. 1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

EMMANUEL. 1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

FORDCOMB. ST. PETER. 2 Bells.

Modern church ; has two modern bells which the Vicar reports as practically inaccessible. They are dated *about* 1846, and are probably from the Whitechapel Foundry.

FORDWICH. ST. MARY. 4 Bells.

I., 27-in. *ioſeph hatch made me* 1633

II., 31-in. Same. 1624

III., 32-in. Same. 1633

IV., 34½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT 1633

Passing bell tolled as soon as notice is received. Usual tellers—3 × 3 for male, or 3 × 2 for female at beginning, then minute strokes.

Tolling also at funerals.

SUNDAYS.—A single bell tolled at 8 a.m. "to regulate the clocks of the parish." Ringing before services.

Peals at 7 a.m. on Easter Day, Christmas Day, and Whitsun-Day. Old year rung out and new one rung in.

Peals rung after weddings.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

Peal rung when the Mayor is elected on the first Monday after St. Andrew's Day.

Best thanks to the Rector, the Rev. E. Brailsford.

FOREST HILL. CHRIST CHURCH. 1 Bell.
I., 28-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1877

ST. PAUL. 1 Bell.
Presumably one modern bell.

FOUR ELMS. ST. PAUL. 1 Bell.
Modern church with one modern bell.

FRINDSBURY. ALL SAINTS. 5 Bells and Sanctus bell.
\$, 7½-in. GERRITT SCHIMMEL ME FECIT DAVENTRIA 1670
I., 32-in. IOHN ♦ CLARK ♦ AND ♦ EDWARD ♦ NORDEN ♦ GAVE
♦ ME 1637 I ♦ W
II., 32½-in. IOHN LOVING IOHN DARBIE MADE ME 1656
OW
III., 37-in. + (Fig. 1) *Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum* + (Fig. 5A)
IV., 40½-in. BY O ME O G O REWE O BEL O FOVNDER O T B O
1584
V., 44-in. ROBERT WATSON GENT. I: RAWLINSON I: PENNISTON
I: W 1638 RECAST 1865 J: FORMBY VICAR
T: WICKENDEN W: ELEY CHURCHWARDENS J.
TAYLOR & CO FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH

The old tenor was inscribed as follows :

ROBERT ♦ WATSON ♦ GENT ♦ I ♦ RAWLINSON ♦ I ♦ PENNISTON
I W 1638

Death knell tolled on tenor. Usual tellers— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman. Tenor tolled for ten minutes at funerals.

Bells rung for Sunday services, "ringing in" on single bell for last five minutes.

Peal on last night of year from 11 till 12.30.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. W. H. Jackson.

For account of No. 3, see p. 34. No. 4 has a curious series of stops between the words.

The sanctus bell (which by the way is unused) is an interesting—if tiny—specimen of Dutch handywork. There is a pretty ornamental border both above and below the inscription. "Daventria" is of course Deventer.

FRINSTEAD.

ST. DUNSTAN.

5 Bells.

I., 26½-in.	}	ROBERT STAINBANK FOUNDER LONDON 1868
II., 28-in.		
III., 30-in.		
IV., 33-in.		C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1853
V., 35-in.		ROBERT STAINBANK FOUNDER LONDON 1868

In 1760 there were here "four bells cast A.D. 1713 by R^d Phelps." In 1824 only one (the tenor) remained sound; the other three were badly broken and the pieces of broken metal rapidly disappearing. By 1851, when the present Rector was appointed, they had totally vanished, and the 4th bell was cracked. It was recast in 1853. In 1868, four new bells were added at the cost of Lord Kingsdown.

Passing bell rung as soon as practicable. Tellers abnormal—three single strokes for a man, two double ones for a woman, 3×3 for a child.

FUNERALS.—Bell tolled at 8 a.m., and again for half an hour before service.

SUNDAYS.—Sermon (tenor) bell at 8 a.m. Bells chimed for service, except on the great festivals, when they are rung.

Peals at 6 a.m. on Easter Day and Christmas Day, and on New Year's Eve.

Occasional wedding peals.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. R. B. Wright.

FRITTENDEN.

ST. MARY.

8 Bells.

I., 27-in. **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO
ET 6 MEARS LONDONI
FECERUNT**

1847

II., 28-in.	THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT	1804
III., 30½-in.	Same.	1804
IV., 31½-in.	Same.	1804
V., 34-in.	Same.	1803
VI., 35½-in.	Same.	1803
VII., 39-in.	Same.	1804
VIII., 43-in.	Same as on No. I.	

Vicar, the Rev. J. W. O. Hallward, states: "No traditions, no peculiar customs," I trust correctly. He adds, "No inscriptions," which is certainly incorrect.

GILLINGHAM.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

8 Bells.

I., 26-in. { BY SUBSCRIPTION A.D. 1811. H. RADCLIFFE D.D. VICAR.
II., 27½-in. { S. LONDON & R. DURHAM CHURCH WARDENS T MEARS
OF LONDON FECIT

III., 29½-in. T: IEEFERIES IA: HICKES CH: WARDENS 1737

IV., 30½-in. MADE BY PHILIP WIGHTMAN 1700

V., 32½-in. Same.

VI., 34½-in. Same.

VII., 38½-in. THO^S LESTER MADE ME 1749

N

HERY WHITE & RICH^D SANDERSON CH o WAR-
DENS

VIII., 41½-in. THOMAS SIMMONS CHVRCH WARDEN MADE BY
PHILIP WIGHTMAN 1700

GODMERSHAM.

ST. LAURENCE.

5 Bells.

I., 30½-in. CHRISTOPHER o HODSON o MADE o ME o 1687.
o o o o o etc.

II., 32½-in. Same.

III., 36-in. Same.

IV., 38½-in. CHRISTO ○ HODSON ○ MADE ○ ME ○ 1687 ○ ○ ○
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ etc.

V., 43-in. CHRISTOPHER ○ HODSON ○ MADE ○ ME ○ 1687 ○
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ etc.
THOMAS ○ WANSTALL ○ EDWARD ○ BILTING ○
C ○ WARDENS ○ ○

T. R. E. Two hande bells . . . four bellys in the steple.

Payments noted :

Item payde for a gogyn for the thyrde bell ... iijs.

Item paid for a bawdryke xijd.

PASSING BELL.—Tellers at commencement—3 × 3 for man, 2 × 2 for woman, then tenor tolled (minute strokes) for half an hour. Treble bell for children.

FUNERALS.—Bell tolled for half an hour at 8 a.m. and again before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Before 1865 there was only “alternate” service, and the 2nd bell was rung at 7 a.m. or at 1 p.m., according as service was to be in morning or afternoon. Now there is a full complement of services, and the bells are rung on the 1st and chimed on the other Sundays in the month. In Lent and Advent only three bells are chimed—“ring in” five minutes on treble.

Ringin on church festivals, and on last night of year.

Best thanks to Vicar, Rev. J. Wilkinson.

GOODNESTONE BY FAVERSHAM. ST. BARTHOLOMEW. 1 Bell.

I., 11-in. Blank.

The above is Mr. Tyssen’s account of the bell here, but I doubt its correctness as applied to the present one. It hangs in an open cage at the west end and is quite visible, but not accessible without a longish ladder, which, at the time of my visit (the height of the hopping season), was not to be got. I could see no trace of inscription from below, which, of course, goes for nothing; but the bell is certainly more than 11 inches in diameter—quite 25 or 26 inches I think—and it has apparently had the edge chipped off for tuning, so that it has at one time formed one of a ring. There is a bell missing from Graveney Church; possibly this is the one.

GOODNESTONE BY SANDWICH. HOLY CROSS. 4 Bells.

I., 22½-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1821

II., 34-in. Blank.

- III., 36-in. *iøseph hãtch mãdẽ mẽ* ☉ 1628
 IV., 40-in. STEPHEN · CHVRCH · THO · MORRIS · CHVRCH-
 WARDENS MATH · BAGLEY · OF · LONDON · FECIT
 1708 ○

The treble bell, according to Mr. Faussett in 1757-8, had upon it :

Ihe (? Ihe) Sancta Maria

and, in addition, "the impression of both sides of a Groat of Henry VIII. impressed upon it, as also the Prince's Feathers and Motto, viz., ICH DIEN." This was probably one of William Oldfield's bells. See p. 58.

No. 2 is an "ancient"—so reports Mr. E. J. Wells.

Passing bell as soon as notice received. Tellers—3 × 3 for males, 3 × 2 for females. Repeated at funeral.

SUNDAYS.—A bell rung at 8 a.m. On Communion Sundays at 9 a.m. All four bells chimed for twenty minutes before services, "toll in" on one bell ten minutes.

Apparently no ringing on church festivals, only on secular anniversaries, *e.g.*, Queen's accession, coronation, etc., and on 5th November, unless New Year's Eve be reckoned ecclesiastical.

Wedding peals rung.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. M. T. Spencer.

GOUDHURST.

ST. MARY.

8 Bells.

- I., 31-in. THE TWO TRIBLE BELLS WERE PURCHASED BY SUBSCRIP-
 TION 1775
 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
 II., 32½-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1834
 III., 34-in. TO HONOUR BOTH OF GOD & KING OUR VOICES SHALL IN
 CONSORT RING
 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1776
 IV., 37-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1805
 V., 40½-in. THE GIFT OF EDWARD BATHVRST OF FINCH-
 COCKS ESQ: ANNO DOM: 1690 NEW MADE 1707
 R: P:
 VI., 42½-in. THE GIFT OF IOHN BATHVRST OF TRILLING-
 HURST GEHT: ANNO: DOM: 1697 NEW MADE
 1707 R P

- VII., 48-in. RICHARD PHELPS MADE THESE SIX BELLS ANNO
DOMINI 1707 ANNA REGINA
- VIII., 54-in. GOUDHURST GREAT BELL RECAST 1834 THOMAS MEARS OF
LONDON FOUNDER
W. B. HARRISON VICAR
D. WEST } CHURCH WARDENS
J. JOHNSON }

Death knell rung for one hour. Tellers (apparently at finish)—three strokes for a man, two for a woman, then age tolled. Bell tolled again for an hour at funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Two bells chimed at 8 a.m. Bells rung for service when there is Holy Communion, chimed on other Sundays.

Peals on the great festivals and on New Year's Eve.

A bell tolled for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to the Rev. J. S. Clarke, Vicar.

GRAINE (ISLE OF).

ST. JAMES.

1 Bell.

I., 19½-in. WILLIAM O WRI O SAMVELL O LONDON

GRAVENEY.

ALL SAINTS.

3 Bells.

- I., 31-in. [☞]Sancte + O I U □ (Fig. 33) [☞]P O U (Fig. 32)
- II., 32-in. + IOHN + PALMAR + MADE + THIS + BELL + 1637
+ T B + I W + T P I + PRAISE + GOD
- III., 33½-in. IOHN WILMER MADE ME 1618

Treble by William Culverden of London. See p. 50. The inscription is decided puzzle; the letter next to the I may be either a U or a reversed N. The stamp next to it (Fig. 33), is also incomprehensible. I had thought at one time some part of the inscription had been filed or chiselled off, but it is not so.

The belfry is in a most disgraceful state, by far the worst I was ever in. There are pits for four bells, and of the three that hang, only one—the largest—is in use or usable; and as that is “clocked,” it will probably soon share the fate of the rest. No. 1 has no rope and no boss to the clapper, and is reported to be cracked; No. 2 is clapperless and has a large piece broken out of the sound-bow, and the whole of both bells and frame is dilapidated and filthy beyond description.

GRAVESEND.

ST. GEORGE.

8 Bells.

- I., 28-in. I^S WADE ESQ MAYOR G^M RACKSTRAW G THOMP-
SON · CH · WARDENS ④ 1771 ○ ○ ○
TH. SWAIN FECIT
- II., 29½-in. SEVERAL GENTLEMEN STRANGERS GAVE THIS BELL 1736
RECAST AT THE CHARGE OF THE PARISH 1793 JOHN
TUCKER. A.M. RECTOR GEO. THOMPSON & JAMES KIRK
CH. WARDENS
THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT
- III., 33-in. GEO : ARNOLD ESQ^R MAYOR THO^S KILLICK IOHN HALES
CH. WARDENS
T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1813
- IV., 34-in. THE INHABITANTS OF GRAVESEND GAVE THIS
BELL THO : HARRIS REC^T:W^M:HARRISON HEN:
WOOTTON CHURCH WARDENS 1736
- V., 37-in. JN^O:JOYNES WA^T:NYNN W^M:LANCE ANTH : IRE-
LAND W^M:MYERS JN^O:FOX JN^O:BOLGER JN^O:
HUGHES JA : ROE GEO : CLARKE TRUSTEES
FOR THE SUBSCRIPTION MONY GAVE THIS BELL
1736. JOHN APPLEBEE & RICHARD PHELPS
MADE THESE EIGHT BELLS
- VI., 38½-in. IAMES · WADE · MAYOR · ESQ^R GAYNHAM · RACK-
STRAW · GEORE · THOMPSON · CH · WARDENS
④ 1771 ○ ○ ○
TH^{OS} SWAIN FECIT
- VII., 42½-in. THE IURATS GAVE THIS BELL WILLIAM HAF-
FENDEN ESQ : DEPUTY MAIOR IOHN IOYNES
ESQ : IUSTICE 1736
- VIII., 47-in. THE CORPORATION GAVE 50 TOWARDS THESE BELLS.
WILLIAM MAN ESQ : MAIOR 1736. THIS BELL WAS RE-
CAST AT THE CHARGE OF THE PARISH 1793
JOHN TUCKER A.M. RECTOR. GEO. THOMPSON & JAMES
KIRK CII : WARDENS.—THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT

Vol. XI. of “*Archæologia Cantiana*” (p. xlvi.) mentions that in 1522, at Bishop Fisher’s visitation, the churchwardens of Gravesend omitted to ring the bells in his honour, for which terrible ecclesiastical offence they were cited and fined.

According to Cruden's "History of Gravesend," the 3rd bell, prior to recasting in 1813, bore the same inscription as the present treble. The original peal of eight cast in 1736 was by R. Phelps, with whom appears to have been associated one J. Applebee, who was, I suspect, the bell carpenter or hanger. The tenor was inscribed to the effect that "J. APPLEBEE, R. PHELPS MADE THESE EIGHT BELLS."

GRAVESEND.

ST. JAMES.

1 Bell.

I., 26-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1851

GREENHITHE.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

GREENWICH.

ST. ALPHEGE.

10 and a Clock Bell.

- I., 29-in. W^M GREEN & R^B COLEGATE CH. WARDENS THO^S MEARS
OF LONDON FECIT 1792
- II., 29½-in. THESE TWO LEAST BELLS WERE BOUGHT BY
SUBSCRIPTION A.D. 1734 THO: IEFFERY CHA:
BAYLY CH: WARD^S ♣
- III., 31¾-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1815
- IV., 32¾-in. THE GIFT OF OUR MOST GRACIOUS QUEEN
CAROLINE R: PHELPS FECIT 1731
- V., 34-in. CHARLES SIMPSON SEXTON R: PHELPS FECIT
1731
- VI., 38-in. THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1792
- VII., 40-in. R: PHELPS FECIT 1731.
- VIII., 43-in. Same.
- IX., 47½-in. RECAST 1814. THE REV^D G. MATTHEW VICAR & JAMES
MORLEY JOHN TRANTER CHURCH WARDENS
T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT
- X., 53-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1824
REV^D GEORGE MATHEW VICAR
MR THO^S ORR }
MR CHARLES RITCHIE } CHURCH WARDENS
- Clock, 31¼-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1814

- T. R. E. Item . . . a smale latten bell.
 Item iiij bells, the greatest mesured from brymme to brym iij
 fote vij inches di.
 Item the ijd. iij foot iij inches the iijrd iij foote j inche the
 iiijth ij foot xj inches.
 Item j saunts bell of brass . . . and ij hand bells of brasse.

Passing bell only rung when specially requested. Tellers— 3×3 for man,
 3×2 for woman. Tenor bell tolled for an hour at time of funeral *if*
paid for.

“Sermon bell or early morning bell on Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good
 Friday. Treble and 2nd at 7 o'clock, 7th and 8th at 8 o'clock.” This is
 not quite clear. Is either of these last the sermon bell, and if so, which? Or
 is it rung at some earlier hour still? Bell chimed for services.

Peals on Christmas Eve and last night of year.

A bell rung for the Easter vestry meeting.

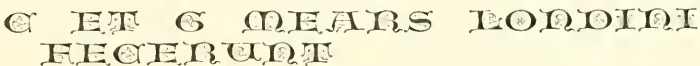
Bells rung on loyal anniversaries, not now (*Deo gratias*) on 5th November.

Best thanks to Mr. Henry S. Richardson.

GREENWICH.

CHRIST CHURCH.

2 Bells.

I., $26\frac{1}{4}$ -in. 

1849

II., 39-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1876

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

I., $27\frac{1}{2}$ -in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1839

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I., $40\frac{1}{2}$ -in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1825

ST. PAUL.

1 Bell.

I., $18\frac{1}{2}$ -in. J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1865

ST. PETER.

1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

ST. ANDREW (MISSION CHURCH).

1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

GROOMBRIDGE. ST. JOHN EVANGELIST. 1 Bell.
 I., 21½-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON
 ELIZA SAINT 1841

GUSTON. ST. MARTIN. 1 Bell.
 I., 25-in. Blank.

HACKINGTON. ST. STEPHEN. 8 Bells.
 I., 25-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1844
 II., 25½-in. Same.
 III., 28-in. R^T CATLIN FECIT 1746
 IV., 30-in. Same.
 V., 31-in. PROSPERITY TO ALL OUR BENEFACTORS R C
 1746
 VI., 33-in. ROBERT CATLIN CAST US ALL 1746
 VII., 36-in. PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH R^T CATLIN FECIT 1746
 VIII., 39½-in. R^T CATLIN FECIT 1746

HADLOW. ST. MARY. 8 Bells.
 I., 26-in. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1775
 II., 27-in. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1775
 III., 29-in. IAMES BARTLET ME FECIT 1696 ☸
 IV., 30-in. Same. 1695 ☸
 V., 34-in. Same.
 VI., 36-in. Same.
 VII., 38-in. Same.
 VIII., 42½-in. HENRY BARTON EDMOND NORMAN CH WARDENS
 ANDREW REANY VICAR 1695 IAMES BARTLET
 ME FECIT

HIGH HALDEN. ST. MARY. 5 Bells.
 I., 30-in. ioseph hatch made me 1611
 II., 33-in. Same. 1610
 III., 36-in. Same. 1609
 IV., 39½-in. Same. ☸
 V., 43-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH FECIT 1620 ☸ REINOLD MAY
 C W

HALLING.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.

5 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. IOHN ♢ HODSON ♢ MADE ♢ ME ♢ 1675 ♣ ○ C H ○ ○ ○
 ○ ○ ♣
 HENRY ♢ ACORTE ♢ CHVRCH ♢ WARDEN ♣ ○ ○ ○ ○ ♣
- II., 30-in. Same.
- III., 32-in. Same.
- IV., 35-in. IOHN ♢ HODSON ♢ CHRISTOPHER ♢ HODSON ♢ MADE
 ♢ ME ♢ 1675
 HENRY ♢ ACORTE ♢ CHVRCH ♢ WARDEN ♣ ♣ ○ ○ ○ ○
- V., 39-in. IOHN * HODSON ♣ CHRISTOPHER * HODSON *
 MADE * ME * 1675 ♢
 HENRY ♣ ACORT ♣ CHVRCH ♣ WARDEN * ○ ○
 ♣ ○ ○ ♣ ∩

HALSTEAD.

ST. MARGARET.

1 Bell (formerly 5).

I., 29½-in. dedicated to god and his service by thomas wattson
 esquire

W ○ C Made In the yeare of our Lord 1612



Bell by William Carter, of London (see p. 93). It is the solitary survivor of a ring of five, all similarly dated, dedicated, and inscribed. One other was in existence twenty years ago. Under the foundry stamp is Fig. 42, indicating that it was moulded by Carter's foreman, Thomas Bartlett.

Passing bell rung as soon as possible. Tellers—3 × 3 for man, 2 × 3 for woman, 2 × 2 for child.

Bell rung for vestry meeting.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. R. Wood.

HALSTOW (HIGH).

ST. MARGARET.

5 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. J : TAYLOR & C^o FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1861
- II., 30½-in. ♣ IOHN ♢ HODSON ♢ MADE ♢ ME ♢ 1675 ♣ E T ♢ REC-
 TOR ♣ ○ ○ C H ○ ○
 THOMAS ♢ DVNNING ♢ IOHN ♢ LOAN ♢ CHVRCH ♢
 WARDENS ○ ○ ○ ○
- III., 31½-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1825

- IV., 34-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1825
 GEORGE SMITH }
 MICHAEL COMFORT } CHURCH WARDENS
- V., 38-in. IOHN * HODSON * MADE * ME * 1675 ♣ EDWARD
 * TVRNER * RECTOR
 THOMAS * DVNNING * IOHN * LOAN * CHVRCH
 * WARDENS O C H O

No peculiar uses.

Very many thanks to the Rev. Charles Longfield, Rector.

LOWER HALSTOW. ST. MARGARET. 3 Bells.

- I., 26½-in. william hatch made me 1662
 II., 29-in. Same.
 III., 31½-in. I H H B C W ⊙ 1662 william hatch made me

HAM. ST. GEORGE. 1 Bell.

- I., 18-in. 1701

HARBLEDOWN. ST. MICHAEL. 3 Bells.

- I., 27-in. ioseph hatch made me 1603
 I B
- II., 30½-in. 0761 EEIN EDVIN P · T W C T H B I
- III., 33-in. Sancte Katerina Ora Pro Nobis ∇ ⊕ ∇

The 2nd bell is by Thomas Palmar; tenor by Henry Jordan (*vide* p. 44).
 The stamps on this last are Figs. 27, 26, and 25.

ST. NICHOLAS' HOSPITAL. 4 Bells.

- I., 24-in. ioseph hatch made me 1622
- II., 25½-in. Iohannis Est Nomen Givs ∇ + ∇
- III., 28-in. ioseph hatch made me 1619
- IV., 31-in. Same. 1614

The shields on No. 2 are Figs. 25 and 27; the cross between them is Fig. 14.

HARDRES (LOWER). ST. MARY. 1 Bell.

- I., 26-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1832

In 1757-8, the sole occupant of the belfry was inscribed :

R. P. Fecit 1723 M^r Benjamin Foreman Church Warden.

But there must have been more bells than this in years gone by. The accounts of the Corporation of Canterbury, under date 1542-3, record :

Receyved of the parishioners of Nether Hardres
for the cities part of iij bells to them sold out of
the Church of Saynt Mary Castell iij*l*.

When, why, and how these three became reduced to one is unknown ; but it was clearly before Hasted's time, as he notes only one bell here.

HARDRES (UPPER). SS. PETER AND PAUL. 3 Bells.

I., 27½-in. SAM= KNIGHT MADE ME ○ ○ 1727 I B ○ ○

II., 33½-in. ioseph hatch made me 1609

III., 36-in. + Sum ○ Rosa ○ Pulsata ○ Mundi ○ Katexina
○ Morata

The shields on tenor are Fig. 6, the initial cross is Fig. 9, and the stop Fig. 8.

HARRIETSHAM. ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST. 8 Bells.

I., 27-in. THO^s LESTER MADE ME 1744

II., 27½-in. YOU CANNOT BE MERRY WITHOUT ME 1744 T:
LESTER MADE US

III., 29½-in. T: L 1742

IV., 31-in. 1742 T · · L MADE ME

V., 32½-in. TH^o LESTER MADE ME 1742

VI., 33½-in. THO^s LESTER MADE ME 1742

VII., 37-in. TH^o : LESTER MADE US ALL & ROB^t BOTTLE
HANGED US ALL 1744

VIII., 41½-in. THO^s LESTER MADE US ALL JAMES KNIGHT ALEX^r BOTTLE
CHURCH WARDENS 1742

I TO THE CHURCH Y^e LIVEING CALL

& TO Y^e GRAUE I SUMMONS ALL

Passing bell rung as soon as death is known. Tellers—three strokes for a man, two for a woman, at beginning.

Bell tolled both before and after funeral.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. J. W. Nutt.

HARTLEY.

ALL SAINTS.

2 Bells.

I., 18-in. + ROBERTVS : RIDER : ME :
FECIT

II., 22-in. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1771

T. R. E. Item ij bells suted in the steeple.

Mem : on hand bell presented to be stolen.

For mention of treble bell, see p. 15.

No local uses.

HARTLIP.

ST. MICHAEL.

6 Bells.

I., 28½-in. MESSRS JN^O MIDHURST & RICH^D GOORD CH. WARDENS
W^M MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1785

II., 29-in. IOHN ♦ EDWARD ♦ ROBERT ♦ AND ♦ ANDREW ♦ OZ-
BORNE ♦ GEN ♦ BRETHREN ♦ BORNE ♦ IN ♦ THE ♦
PAR ♦ ISH ♦ OF ♦ HARTLIP ♦ FOR ♦ LOVE ♦ THEY ♦
BARE ♦ TO ♦ THE ♦ SAME ♦ HAVE ♦ FRELY ♦ GIVEN ♦
THIS ♦ BELL ♦ AN ♦ DMI 1578

III., 31½-in. IOhn ♦ wilnar ♦ made ♦ mee 1628

IV., 36-in. IOHN ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1632

V., 39-in. ✠ (Fig. 5)* In Multis Annis Resonet Campana
Iohannis ✠ (Fig. 1)

VI., 42½-in. IOhn ♦ wilnar ♦ made ♦ mee ♦ 1628

For mention of No. 5, see p. 34.

Treble has a large piece broken out of the shoulder.

Passing bell rung immediately upon notice given. Age denoted by size of bell at discretion of sexton.

Bells chimed for Sunday services fifteen minutes. "Ring in" on treble ten minutes.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. F. T. Scott.

* Or 5a, I am not sure which.

HARTY. ST. THOMAS. 1 Bell.

I., 27-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1760

HASTINGLEIGH. ST. MARY. 1 Bell.

I., 24-in. JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1862

T. R. E. Imprimis three bells in the steeple.

Parish united with Elmstead. Probably no "local uses," as Rector does not mention any.

HATCHAM. ALL SAINTS. 1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. JAMES. 1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

HAWKHURST. ST. LAURENCE. 8 Bells.

I., 30 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. + ~~H~~oliness unto the Lord + C and G Mears
London founders 1847

II., 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. Same.

III., 32 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. THE REVEREND MR THO: GLOVER MINISTER
JAMES TESTOR THO: MARTIN CH. WARDENS
RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1734

IV., 35-in. IOHN ♢ WILNAR ♢ MADE ♢ ME ♢ 1633 I B ♢ T M ♢
C ♢ W ♢

V., 36 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. ioseph hatch made me IOHN SLOMAN C W Ⓞ
1613

VI., 40-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT Ⓞ 1617

VII., 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. + ~~H~~oliness unto the Lord 1612 Recast 1847 C &
G Mears Founders London

VIII., 51-in. REV^d EDWARD MONTAGUE SALTER MINISTER T MEARS OF
LONDON FECIT 1824

FRANCIS AYERST }
WILLIAM GREGSON } CHURCHWARDENS

Curfew rung every night at 8 from 25th October to 10th March, except during the twelve days from Christmas to Epiphany. This is without doubt a genuine case of survival; Hawkhurst Church was built by the Monks of

Battle, and was served from the Abbey as late as 1291, when the first rector was appointed.

Passing bell as soon as notice of death received.

SUNDAY USES.—Peculiar. Bell at 8 a.m. Bell at 9, warning for matins at 10.30; and another at 1.30, warning for evensong at 3. A few years ago, in winter, evensong was at 2.30, and then the warning bell was rung at 1. Bells rung or chimed half an hour before service. Priest's bell used (Qy. treble). Peals on all great Church festivals, and on Queen's birthday; not (happily) on 5th November. A bell for vestry meetings.

Many thanks to Canon Jeffreys. I regret very much I have been unable to get access to the parish accounts, which are of peculiar interest. The following few extracts are partly from "Arch. Cant.," vol. v., and partly from notes made for Mr. Tyssen some twenty years ago.

1549-50	Receipts.					
	Itm. for iiij handbells wayenge xx ^{li}	...	...	...	iiij <i>s.</i>	iiij <i>d.</i>
1550-51	Payments.					
	Item p ^d to John Browne for ledther for a bawderyck	...	...	...	...	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Item pay ^d to Robt Standen for mendynge of the bell whylls	...	...	...	...	vij <i>d.</i>
1551-54	Paid for ij bell ropes	...	...	...	iiij <i>s.</i>	
	P ^d to the glasyer for mendynge of the bell house wyndowe and in the churche besids	...	...	...	xij <i>s.</i>	iiij <i>d.</i>
	P ^d to Rychard Seceley for mendynge of the frame abowt the great bell	...	...	...	...	x <i>d.</i>
	P ^d to Bolt for makynge of viij bawdericks	...	...	...	...	xvj <i>d.</i>
	P ^d to Thomas Standen for new laynge the gudgyn of the great bell	...	...	...	...	vij <i>d.</i>
	P ^d to John Goodman for halffe a horsse hyd	...	...	...	...	xvj <i>d.</i>
1558-9	Itm. p ^d for whyte lether for the bells	...	...	...	...	xv <i>d.</i>
1559-60	Itm. p ^d for makeinge the bauderyckes to freman	...	...	...	...	xij <i>d.</i>
	P ^d for making towe bell whilles	...	...	...	xs.	
	P ^d for bred and drynck when they wer sett up	...	...	...	...	vij <i>d.</i>
1568	Layd out for ij bell roopes	...	...	...	iiij <i>s.</i>	
1573	It. to Goldsmith for a bell clapper	...	...	...	ij <i>s.</i>	ij <i>d.</i>
	It. for a new whyle for the great bell	...	...	...	vij <i>s.</i>	iiij <i>d.</i>

1594 It is agreyed by the consente of the picynors that a Sesse shall be made by halfe a dosen men of the piche for the exchayngynge of the belles before the laste daye of July next comynge.

1596 and xiiij*li*. xs. uppon a sesse made for castyng of two belles & other nessesary reperacyons.

1597 Also the saied Tho. Butler chargethe himselfe wth the receipt of xxjs. vij*d*. levyed uppon a sesse made for the castinge & repayinge of the Bells in the tyme of John Woodgates churchwardenshippe.

Also the sayed Tho: Butler chargeth himselfe wth the receipt of xxix*li*. ijs. iiij*d*. gathered by a sesse made the xvijth of September in the xxxviiijth yere of the Queen for the Repayreige of the church & bells of the pishe church of Hawkerst.

1601 Item there remayneth still in the hands of the said Richard Theball towards the satesfyng of Anthoney Wakefeild bel-founder y^e money due to him for the castinge of one of the bells in Tho. Butlers & Rich. Austens yeres ... vi*li*. iijs.

The following mem. also appears :

The treble cast by	J. Brett & Tim Mercer Wardens	1633
The second by		1613
The third by		1617
The fourth by		1612
The tenor by Joseph Hatch, J. Mercer & W ^m Chittenden Churchward		1617
1595 A Tax by John Woodgate for casting 2 Bells.		
Anthony Wakefield cast one Bell	1596 or 97.	
1622 John Robbins p ^d for casting one Bell & Mettle.		

HAWKHURST.

ALL SAINTS.

3 Bells.

I., 29-in.	} G. MEARS & C ^o FOUNDERS LONDON 1861
II., 30-in.	
III., 32-in.	

HAWKINGE.

ST. MICHAEL.

1 Bell.

I., 25-in. Blank.

T. R. E. Item ij bells in the Steple.

HAYES.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

I., 26-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1882

II., 27-in. Same.

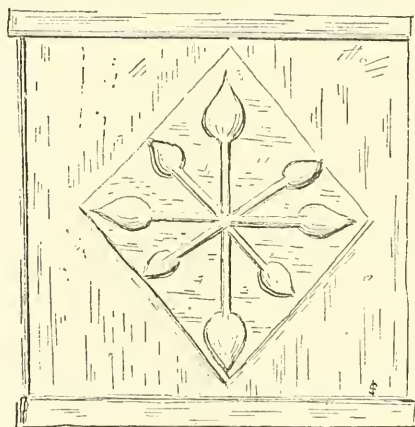
III., 29-in. Same.

IV., 31-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1832

V., 33½-in. IOHN † HODSON † MADE † ME † 1670 † C H †

VI., 37-in. Robertus Mot + Me fecit + 1602

The cross on tenor between "Mot" and "Me" is this—evidently from an old stamp which had come into Mot's hands, for I found it on a fifteenth century bell at Little Hadham, Herts :



T. R. E. Item iij bells suted and one saints bell.

Mem: a handbell a sacryng bell ij litle bells presented to be sold.

Death knell at earliest convenient time. Tenor used. Tellers—three strokes for a male, two for a female ; same on *treble* for child.

SUNDAYS.—Fifth bell rung for five minutes at 8 a.m. "to notify service at eleven."

Bells rung or chimed for services, then tenor rung for ten minutes, and 3rd for five.

For week-day services a bell generally tolled. Saint's Day use same as Sundays.

No ringing or chiming in Lent.

Peals at 6 a.m. on the four great festivals.

A bell (5th) for vestry meetings.

No ringing except for ecclesiastical purposes.

Very carefully drawn belfry rules obtain here—erring, if at all, in being a little too elaborate.

Best thanks to the Rector, the Rev. G. V. Reed.

HEADCORN.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

8 Bells.

- I., 30½-in. GIVEN BY JOHN HUDDS RICHARD GREENHILL EXECUTOR
THO^S BAYLY THO^S LEDGER C^H WARDENS 1766 LESTER &
PACK OF LONDON FECIT
- II., 31½-in. Same, excepting T. BAYLY and T. LEDGER.
- III., 32½-in. S K 1732
- IV., 34½-in. R: PHELPS FECIT 1714
- V., 38-in. RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1714
- VI., 40½-in. Same.
- VII., 43-in. EDMOND PECHE DANIEL BENISON CHURCH-
WARDENS RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1720
- VIII., 49½-in. VNT0 THE CHVRCH I DOO YOV CALL DEATH
TO THE GRAVE WILL SVMMONS ALL
RICHARD KITE IOHN WORE CHVRCH WARDENS
SAMVELL KNIGHT MADE ME 1732

HERNE.

ST. MARTIN.

6 Bells.

- I., 30½-in. THO— FEARIMAN PETER TALL S K 1724
- II., 32-in. THO^S VANDEPEER THO^S STEPHENS CHURCH WAR-
DENS SAMUEL KNIGHT MADE ME 1737
- III., 34-in. ROBERT STAINBANK FOUNDER LONDON 1868
- IV., 37½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT 1621
- V., 40-in. W^M CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1781 GILBARD PEMBROOK
CHURCH WARDEN
- VI., 44½-in. ROBERT STAINBANK FOUNDER LONDON 1867

In 1758 Nos. 3 and 5 were both by Joseph Hatch, and dated, respectively, 1624 and 1638. The former tenor was also by him, and dated 1624.

HERNE BAY. ST. SAVIOUR. 1 Bell.
I., 20-in. 1816

HERNHILL. ST. MICHAEL. 5 Bells.
I., 27½-in. W^M MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1785
II., 29½-in. Same.
III., 31-in. Same.
IV., 33½-in. W^M COURT & JOHN JOHNCUCK CH. WARDENS W^M MEARS
OF LONDON FECIT 1785
V., 36-in. HENRY POOLE VICAR W^M MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1785

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.

FUNERALS.—A bell tolled for half an hour at 7 a.m., and again before the service.

SUNDAYS.—A bell tolled at 9.30 a.m., “to call attention to the fact of the day being Sunday.” Bells chimed for services and on great festivals, rung afterwards.

Wedding peals after any marriage of consequence ; and when a parishioner celebrates his “silver” or “golden” wedding—a graceful custom.

Peals to ring in the new year, on Accession Day, 5th November in the evening, and on 29th May at 5 a.m.

This ring now consists of eight, three having been added in January, 1887.
Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. W. D. Springett.

HEVER. ST. PETER. 5 Bells.
I., 28-in. R : P : FECIT 1703
II., 29-in. Same.
III., 30½-in. Same.
IV., 33½-in. MR : THO : LANCASTER : REC : R : P : FECIT : 1703
V., 37-in. MR : WM : STREATFEILD : MR : WM : WICKENDEN :
CH . WARD : R . PHELPS . FE . 1703

No. 3 is broken.

HIGHAM (Old Church). ST. MARY. 2 Bells.

I., 16½-in. I H

1713

II., 33½-in. GEORGE SMITH VICAR ANNO DOM 1713

WILLIAM 17 BOGHURST C 17 WARDEN

I 17 HADLEY 17 F 17

Passing bell rung as soon as notice of death is given. Tellers: 3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. W. S. Wood, D.D.

HIGHAM (New Church). ST. JOHN. 5 Bells.

I., 25-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1863

II., 26½-in. Same.

III., 27½-in. Same.

IV., 30-in. Same.

V., 32½-in. Same.

HILBOROUGH. ST. MARY. 1 Bell.

I., 36-in. ioseph hatch made me 1635

This bell is one of four which were at Reculver, of which desecrated church this is the modern representative.

HILDENBOROUGH. ST. JOHN. 1 Bell.

I., 33½-in. Thomas Mears Fecit Londini

HINXHILL. ST. MARY. 2 Bells.

I., 32-in. Blank.

II., 35½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT 1634

W H

T. R. E. Item iij gret bells and ij smalle hand bells.

In 1757 there would seem to have been still three bells, the smallest of which has since disappeared. It was devoid of inscription, like the present treble.

Local uses same as at Brook, which see.

HOATH. ST. MARY THE VIRGIN AND THE HOLY TRINITY. 3 Bells.

I., 23-in. I C 1696

II., 25½-in. + S A M B A

III., 29½-in. I C 1696

The shield on No. 2 bears a cross plain—it occurs elsewhere (see p. 47). The cross is Fig. 29. I am quite unable to guess at the meaning of the inscription; read it forwards or backwards it is equally unintelligible. The date (*circa* 1500) is too early for churchwardens' initials.

HOLLINGBOURNE. ALL SAINTS. 6 Bells.

I., 31-in. SAMVELL O KNIGHT O MADE O ME THE LEDARE
O OF O THIS O RING TO BE 1723

II., 33½-in. S KNIGHT FECIT 1723 T S T T A B

III., 36-in. 1723

IV., 37½-in. RICHARD SPICE IOHN TAPLEY SEZER RICHARD
RVSSSELL IVNER 1723

V., 41-in. RICHARD RVSSSELL CH WARDEYN SAMVELL KNIGHT
FECIT 1723

VI., 45-in. EDWARD WATERMAN VICAR RICHARD CHALONER
SAM— KNIGHT FECIT 1723

HONOR OAK. ST. AUGUSTINE. 1 Bell.

Church built 1873; doubtless one bell of that date.

HOO. ALL HALLOWS. 1 Bell.

I., 20½-in. Floral ornament only.

Death knell any time after death between sunrise and sunset. Tellers—
2 × 3 for male, 2 × 2 for female.

FUNERALS.—Bell tolled during procession to church.

SUNDAY SERVICES.—Bell tolled three times at intervals.

The churchwardens' accounts for 1555 contain the following entry:

Itm. to Wyllm boyer for mending the bell & frame ... viij*l*.

There is a local (and unreliable) tradition as to a ring of bells being stolen from here by men from Leigh, in Essex.

Best thanks to Rev. E. B. Wensley, Vicar.

HOO.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell (formerly 3).

I., 37-in. † IOHN † HODSON † MADE † ME † 1662 † PHILLIP †
RAYNES † ♣ ♣ ♣ IOHN † LEVES ♣ CHVRCH ♣
WARDENS ♣ W O H O O

Death knell rung. Tellers— 3×3 for man,
 3×2 for woman,
 2×3 for boy,
 2×2 for girl.

Thanks to Rector, Rev. C. J. Roberts.

HOO.

ST. WERBURGH.


6 Bells.

I., 32-in. GEORGE PEARCE & JOHN GRAVES CHURCH WARDENS † T
MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1825

II., 34½-in. O ♣ IOHN † HODSON † MADE † ME † 1662 † WILLIAM
† COSENS † IOHN † PEETT ♣ CHVRCH † WARDENS
† W O H † ♣ ♣

III., 36-in.  ♣ BY ♣ ME ♣  GYLES REVE ♣  BELL ♣  FOVNDER ♣ 
1588

On waist, a dragon twice and the crowned rose twice.

IV., 39½-in. WILLIAM HATCH MADE ME MC HC CW  1641

V., 44-in. SAMUEL SMITH & THOMAS WICKENS CH. WARDENS WM
CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1781

VI., 48-in. THOMAS + GARDINER + MADE + ME + SVDBURY
+ SUFFOLK + + 1738 + + +

No ringers; bells chimed with apparatus. No local customs; bells only
used to chime for service or toll for a funeral.

Thanks to Rev. Percy G. Benson, Vicar.

HOPE.

ALL SAINTS (in ruins).

I., 32-in. Blank.

Lying unhung in New Romney Church.

T. R. E. Item ij lytle bells in the steeple.
Item one hande bell.

HORSMONDEN.

ST. MARGARET.

6 Bells.

- I., 32-in. S K 1737
 II., 34-in. CARI NATALIS LOCI SEMPER MEMOR G^s H^s SMITH
 MARRIOTT ME D. D. AD 1882
 III., 37-in. S K 1737
 IV., 39 in. S K 1737
 V., 44-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1810
 VI., 49-in. JOHN OLLIVE & JOHN ASHDOWN CH:WARDENS PACK & CHAP-
 MAN OF LONDON FECIT 1769

Passing bell as soon as possible after death. Bell tolled for an hour, after which the tellers— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman.

Bell tolled for an hour before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Eight o'clock peal (two bells). For services bells rung 1st Sunday in month, chimed only on other Sundays for half an hour before service. "Priest's bell" (Qy. treble) last five minutes.

On great festivals, bells rung both before and after service. On Good Friday only tenor tolled.

New Year's Eve: Peal rung. Old year tolled out (twelve strokes) at midnight; then another peal.

Bell for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Rector, Rev. H. F. Smith-Marriott.

HORTON KIRBY.

ST. MARY.

3 Bells.

- I., 30-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1817
 II., 30-in. { R: P: FECIT 1733 ♣ GOOD CHRISTIANS ALL +
 TO PRAYERS WE CALL +
 WE HONOUR TO KING
 AND BRIDES JOY DO BRING ♣
 TRYUMPHS WE TE
 AND RING THE DEAD

- III., 33½-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1826

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple suted of brasse.

In Hasted's time there were five bells; the other two have long disappeared, but the lower beams of their framing still remain. The present middle bell is in a most dilapidated condition, having a large piece of the crown and shoulder completely broken out. As, however, the lower part of the bell is

perfect, it is capable of being chimed, and in that way is still used. Its mutilated state accounts for the imperfect inscription above recorded. By supplying "LL" to the upper line, and "MANS KNELL" to the lower one, it may be conjecturably completed.

HOTHFIELD.

ST. MARY.

5 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1762
 II., 30-in. Same.
 III., 31½-in. Same.
 IV., 33½-in. JOHN SMEED & THO^s HUMPHREY CH. WARDENS
 1762 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT
 V., 37-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME ☉ 1607
 T. R. E. Item iij gret bells in the stepyll and ij hande bells with iij
 sacrynge bells.
 Item a sanctus bell brokyn in the crown.
 Item by this tyme also ij sacrynge bells wantynge.

In 1758 Mr. Faussett notes here four bells only, inscribed as follows :

- I. Henry Williams C W 1741 Thomas Carter of London Made me
 II., III. and IV. Joseph Hatch made me 1607

And he states No. II. to be cracked.

"Thomas Carter" on the treble is clearly a mistake for Thomas Lester.

Passing bell rung immediately after death. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female. Bell tolled at funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Eight o'clock bell rung. Bells chimed for services—"before chimes, tenor bell for sermon."

Ringing on Coronation Day.

Best thanks to Rector, Rev. R. C. Swan.

HOUGHAM.

ST. LAURENCE.

3 Bells.

- I., 27-in. ioſeph hatch made me T H W F C W 1634
 II., 28-in. WILLI PILCHER C W RICH^d HARVEY H^d OF YE
 PAR^h S K 1724
 III., 31-in. Blank.

Passing bell rung as soon as possible after news of death. No difference is made in the knell for sex or age.

Tenor bell rung for Sunday services, five minutes only.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. Edward R. Orger.

CHRIST CHURCH.

1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

HUCKINGE.

ST. MARGARET.

2 Bells.

I., 18½-in. Blank.

II., 21½-in. Blank.

HUNTON.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

I., 27-in. ♣ IOHN WAYLETT MADE ♣ ME 1717

II., 30-in. GEORGE HATLEY ♣ ♣ 1717

III., 32-in. IOHN ♣ HATLEY ♣ ♣ 1717

IV., 32½-in. Same as No. 1.

V., 36-in. ♣ IOHN ♣ BISHOP ♣ CHVRCH ♣ WARDEN ♣ 1717

VI., 41½-in. ♣ MR GEORGE ♣ FAGE ♣ RECTOR ♣ 1717

Passing bell rung as soon as notice of death is received. Tellers—3 × 3 for a male, 3 × 2 for a female—then bell tolled for an hour.

FUNERALS.—Tenor tolled from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., and again for an hour before the service.

SUNDAYS.—Three bells chimed at 8 a.m. All six rung for an hour before morning service, and two or three before evensong.

No ringing in Lent.

Peals on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve; also on Accession Day, Queen's Birthday, May 29th, and November 5th.

Fourth bell rung for vestry meetings.

The churchwardens' accounts contain the following entries :

1675	Item paid Goodman Bingham for oyle for the bells		6 <i>d.</i>
	Item paid for bell ropes which waid thirty-five pound	17 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
1698	paid for a new stock and hanging y ^e third bell	1 <i>li.</i>	1 <i>s.</i>
	paid for trushing (trussing) y ^e treble	2 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
1717	for expenses about the bells	8 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	payd for Bellropes	1 <i>li.</i>	3 <i>s.</i>
	payd to M ^r Waylett for casting of the bells ...	30 <i>li.</i>	

There is no doubt the present ring were cast on the spot—in the churchyard, in fact. Local tradition affirms this ; and in digging a grave a few years ago the sexton came upon a quantity of bell metal.

Best thanks to the Rector, the Rev. Canon Hall.

HYTHER.

ST. LEONARD.

10 Bells.

I., 28-in.	M. A. ROTHSCCHILD MP FOR THE BORO H B MACKESON ESQ } E H RONALDS } CH. WARDENS J FRIEND CONDUCTOR
II., 29-in.	THESE TWO TREBLES ADDED AD 1861
III., 30-in.	THO ^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1802
IV., 30½-in.	Same.
V., 32-in.	Same.
VI., 34½-in.	Same.
VII., 37-in.	Same.
VIII., 41-in.	Same.
IX., 43-in.	Same.
X., 48½-in.	R SHIPDEN ESQ ^{RE} MAYOR W FERRY W CARD CHURCH- WARDENS H DOWN RINGER T MEARS LONDON FECIT 1802

Mr. Bryan Faussett's note as to this church (under date 1757-8) is as follows :

"The tower fell down a few years ago, but is now rebuilt. It stands at the West End. In it hang 6 very Musical Bells. The First or smallest of them having been broke by y^e Fall of y^e Tower was recast by Robert* Pack of London in 1752 the Year the new Tower was finish't. The other 5 were all founded by John Waylett in y^e year 1720."

Here are valuable Corporation records, from the report on which by H.M. Historical MSS. Commission I give the following extracts :

"Ch. Wardens account 1480-81. Extracts :

"The same William and Henry (C W) answer for a collection for devoutness from certain men & women for the bells and to make the frame of the bell tower. Collections on Sundays 'By way of indulgence'—then follow—

* A mistake for Thomas.

"Among Expenditure :

"For two bawdrikes 8*d*. Paid to the belfoundere in full payment 50*s*. 8*d*. Paid John Hamme as earnest for doing the work of the bells 4*d*. Paid for the board of John Hame and two men working with him for two weeks *in takynge downe of the olde frame of stepulle* 6*s*. Expended upon victuals for men carrying new timber for the said steeple 2*s*. 4*d*. Paid John Hamme and two Hammes (*sic*) working for 10 days upon making the new frame for the steeple 5*s*. Paid for 4 gogynys and other ironwork pertaining to the said frame 3*s*. To John Hamme in full payment of his agreement for the same 10*li*. Paid the expenses of John Hamme in the house of William Lune 5*d*. Paid for *le claper* of the largest bell 6*s*. 8*d*. For *le claper* of the fourth bell 20*d*. Also paid Robert Clerke for *le claper*.

"A list then follows of 'Receipts by William Waryne and Henry Hermann from certain men and women for devotion sake towards the bells of Hethe and other works pertaining to the steeple of the said Church for the time of the account of the said William and Henry.' The subscriptions of the 12 Jurats are first set forth—10*s*. the largest sum being contributed by William Lune. A long list of Commoners then follows, the executors of John Dokeney contributing 20*s*., the largest sum—12*s*. 2*d*. being the subscription of Laurence Marche. The smallest sums are subscriptions of one penny each, received from 'one Richard, a laborer,' and five others—men and women."

ICKHAM.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

4 Bells.

- | | | |
|---------------|---|------|
| I., 27-in. | IOHN · FAYERMAN · AND · MICHAEL · TRAPPS ·
WARDENS IOHN · PALMAR · MADE · MEE · | 1641 |
| II., 30½-in. | Same. | 1641 |
| III., 32½-in. | Same. | 1671 |
| IV., 36-in. | LORD ✧ IEVS ✧ CHRIST ✧ RESEVE ✧ EACH ✧ SOL ✧
FOR ✧ HOME ✧ THIS ✧ BELL ✧ SHAL ✧ TOL ✧
AMEN ✧ IOHN · PALMAR · MADE · ME IOHN ·
FAYERMAN · AND · MICHEL · TRAPPS · WARD-
NES | 1641 |

One bell is cracked.

Passing bell rung as soon as possible after death. A knell also rung at 8 a.m. on morning of funeral, and again at the burial.

SUNDAYS.—Bell rung at 8 a.m., and again after morning service. Usual ringing for services.

According to "Arch. Cantiana," vol. xiv., p. 125, Richard Townley, by his will, dated 1525, left a house and garden for the curfew ringer. Apparently the endowment has been lost and the custom has ceased.

Best thanks to Rector.

IDE HILL. ST. MARY THE VIRGIN. 1 Bell.

I., 20-in. 1807

Bell no doubt a second-hand one. Church quite recent.

IFIELD. ST. MARGARET. 1 Bell.

I., 20 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. C & G MEARS LONDINI FECERUNT

AD MAGNAM DEI GLORIAM

D D WILLIELMUS EDMEADES ARMIGER DE NUR-
STED 1845

IGHTHAM. ST. PETER. 5 Bells.

I., 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. THE REV^D RALPH LEIGH M : A : RECTOR EDWARD
BATT CHURCH WARDEN R : P : FE^T 1732

II., 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. + *Amice Xpi Iohannes* ∩

III., 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. + *Vox Augustini Sonet In Ave Dei* ∩

IV., 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. W & T MEARS LATE LESTER PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
FECIT 1789

V., 34-in. IOHN ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1620

For account of Nos. 2 and 3, see p. 31. The crosses are alike—fig. 14.
Foundry stamps, Fig. 13.

T. R. E. Item iij bolls (? bells).

Death knell rung "as soon as may be," but always between sunrise and noon. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female. Bell tolled at funerals.

Bells chimed for services.

A bell tolled for vestry.

Peals at 7 (? a.m.) on the great festivals. None on November 5th (happily).

Best thanks to Rev. J. Polehampton, Rector.

IVYCHURCH.

ST. MARTIN.

5 Bells.

- I., 32-in. IOH^W WILZER MADE ME 1624
 II., 34-in. Same.
 III., 37-in. Same.
 IV., 41-in. SAM^W KNIGHT FECIT 1724 WILLIAM THOMAS C W
 V., 44-in. Same as No. 1.

T. R. E. Item iiij bells being in the Stepill.

Item ij litill bells.

In 1455, William Warde bequeathed 40s. to the parishioners on condition that they should buy new bells, otherwise the legacy was not to be paid.*

Passing bell tolled "at death." Tellers—3 × 3 for a male, 3 × 2 for a female—then bell tolled quickly for a few minutes, and then minute strokes.

On day of funeral, bell tolled at 7 a.m., and again at the service.

SUNDAYS.—Bell tolled at 9 a.m. when there is morning service, and at noon when service is in the afternoon.

Best thanks to Rector, Rev. W. C. L. Wingate.

IWADE.

ALL SAINTS.

2 Bells.

- I., 19½-in. Blank.
 II., 20-in. Blank.

Doubtless the two oldest church bells in Kent—long-waisted, with cylindrical crowns and perfectly plain sides. They are supposed locally to be two ship's bells, and of Low Country manufacture, but I see no grounds for the correctness of this. The church is, in its earliest parts, Transitional Norman, but the tower is Early English, and I think the bells are co-eval with it.

KEMSING.

ST. MARY.

2 Bells.

- I., 32-in. + (Fig. 7) *Sternis Annis Resonet Campana*
Iohannis ∇ (Fig. 6)
 II., 34½-in. ☙ ♣ SOLIDEO ♣ HONOR ♣ ET ♣ GLORIA I H C + +
 TS + IF + IM + GF + WF + W : W

For mention of treble, see p. 27. Dedication probably to St. John the Baptist. The annual fair is on that saint's day, which points to a local guild in his honour.

* "Arch. Cant.," xiii. 452.

Death knell rung morning after death. Tellers— 3×3 for a man, 3×2 for a woman or a child. Bell tolled before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—A bell rung at 8 a.m. Bells chimed for services.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. G. B. Lewis.

KENARDINGTON.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell

I., 26½-in. THO MAYLAM CHVRCH WARDEN ○ IOHN WAYLETT FECJT 1720

No local uses. Tradition affirms that the church formerly had more bells but that they were “destroyed by the Spaniards in the year 1559.” I am afraid this tradition is not reliable.

I am obliged to the Rector, the Rev. Sydney B. Lobb.

KENNINGTON.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

I., 28-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1883
VÆ MIHI SI NON EVANGELIZAUERO

II., 30-in. THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1804

III., 32-in. *Robertus* + *Mot* + *me* + *fecit* 1602 ☉

IV., 33-in. MESS^{RS} J^{NO} ROOTS & FRANCIS SIBERT CH. WARDENS CHAPMAN
& MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1784

V., 37-in. *IES* ○ *EST* ○ *AMOR* ○ *MEVS* *
(Fig. 35) ∇ (Royal Arms) * (Fig. 35)

VI., 40-in. *Robertus* + *Mot* + *me* + *fecit* + 1602 ☉ ∇

For mention of No. 5, see p. 56. The coat of arms on the tenor is that of the Ellys family,* who owned one of the manors here.—Ellys, who had the manor in 1602, doubtless bore the expense of recasting the then 2nd and 5th. The cross figured under Hayes is also used by Mot on one of the bells here.

T. R. E. First fyve bells in the stepyll.

In 1758 the (then) treble and No. III. were also pre-Reformation bells. They bore :

I. Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis

II. Sancte Paule Ora Pro Nobis

Passing bell rung as soon as possible after death, but always between sunrise and sunset. Tellers at beginning— 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female. Bell

* Ar. on a cross sa. five crescents of the field. Not five *torquayes* for Grenville, as stated by Hasted.

then raised and kept up for a short time, then lowered and tolled. Age denoted by bell used, *e.g.*, tenor for old people, 5th for middle-aged, 4th for young, and so downwards.

On day of funeral a knell is rung at 7.30 a.m. ; always on tenor. First tellers as above, then bell raised for a short time and then lowered, and a few strokes tolled. Muffled peals for Vicar or a ringer, or an old inhabitant.

SUNDAYS.—Formerly a bell was rung at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. For services the bells are chimed, except on great festivals, when they are rung ; there are also peals in the early morning on these occasions.

On New Year's Eve the old year is rung out with a half-muffled peal, and the new one rung in at midnight with a full open peal.

Peals on Queen's birthday and other national and local anniversaries.

An old inhabitant of the parish, who died in 1883 at the mature age of 94, well recollected the old treble's being recast in 1804. He had helped on the occasion to draw the bell up to its place in the cage. He had been one of the ringers for *three-quarters of a century*, viz., from 1804 till 1878. In the old smuggling times, the earlier part of this century, the ringers were often assistants in cheating the revenue, and when hard pressed by the officers they would carry the smuggled tubs or other packages up into the belfry and fasten them up inside the bells, tying them on to the clappers.

The following entries occur in the parish accounts :

1711	Item paid for new sett of Bell ropes	...	...	15s.	0d.
1713	Item (a similar entry).				
1714	Item paid to y ^e ringers at the Proclaiming of King George	...	...	2s.	6d.
	Item paid more to y ^e ringers at the coronation of King George	...	...	5s.	
1715	Item paid for a form of Prayer on Thanksgiving on y ^e first day of August*	...	...	1s.	
	Item paid to y ^e Ringers on same day	...	...	2s.	6d.
1716	Item For a proclamation for the thanksgiving† y ^e 7 day of June	...	...	1s.	
	Item paid to y ^e (ringers) on the same	...	...	2s.	6d.
	Item paid the ringers at the King's coming home			2s.	6d.

* Accession day of George I.

† Probably for the suppression of the insurrection in Scotland.

1722	Item P ^d at the puting out the Bells*	5s.	6d.
	Item spent on the bell hanger at several times ...	3s.	
	Item paid for a quart of oyle	2s.	
	Item p ^d the Bell hanger the full of his money at 2 payments	15s.	
	Item spent on him att y ^e last payin 3s. 6d. and 1s. att y ^e first payin ... 1s.	4s.	6d.
	Item p ^d to Edw ^d Austen for puting up the Sally beams	2s.	
	For a sett of new Bell ropes	15s.	
1724	Item p ^d goodman Walke his bill for work done about the bell frame	1 <i>l</i> .	12s. 0½ <i>d</i> .
	Paid for oyle		9 <i>d</i> .
	Item paid Tom ^s pain a bill for iron work done about the bell frame	8s.	
	My own bill for timber about the bell frame ...	? ?	
1726	p ^d to goodman Walke a bill for making Bell wheell and other work about the Bells	19s.	6 <i>d</i> .
	paid for a pint of oyle	1s.	
1729	Item gave the ringers on crownation day... ..	5s.	
	p ^d for Bell ropes	15s.	
1730	p ^d at the King's crownation	2s.	6 <i>d</i> .
1735	Item p ^d to Tho ^s Pain for mending the clapper of a bell	2s.	6 <i>d</i> .
1737	Item p ^d to Rich ^d Tucker fo five new bell ropes ...	15s.	
1740	(about) Paid for work dun about the church and bells when the bell Tumbel doon as will appear by Bill	1 <i>l</i> .	1s. 5 <i>d</i> .
1742	Item p ^d to William Walke a bill for bell work ...	19s.	
1745	Item gave the ringers for ringing of the Fast day for the suppression of the Rebellion	10s.	
1746	Item paid the ringers for ringing on the Duke's† birthday	5s.	
1751	p ^d Mr Tucker for bell ropes	16s.	
1755	p ^d for two ringing days	10s.	

* *I.e.*, putting out the work to be done on them.

† The butcher Cumberland.

1757	Item p ^d for bell ropes	...	...	...	...	17s.
1775—July 2.	Barber the ringing money for y ^e year					
1775	...	...	...	...	...	5s.
1783—May 17.	M ^r Springett a bill for 4					
	brasses for the bells	...	...	1 <i>li.</i>	2s. 9 <i>d.</i>	
	and owtset 21 pound of old Brass			10s.	6 <i>d.</i>	12s. 3 <i>d.</i>
1784—Feb.	Paid James Rolfe for carreing the bell to					
	Faversham	...	...	...	...	6s. 3 <i>d.</i>
	M ^r Sibert Ringing money for year	...	...			5s.
	May 25. James Rolfe for bringing the bell from					
	Faversham	...	...	...	...	7s.
	Dec. 31. John Steddy for hanging bell	...	...	*5 <i>li.</i>		9s.
	M ^r Welson for bringing the bell Home from					
	London	...	...	...	...	10s. 6 <i>d.</i>
	M ^r William Mears for the new bell in ballance	...	7 <i>li.</i>			17s.
1786	Howland for a sett of new bell ropes	...	...			19s.
1787	M ^r Sibert the ringing money	...	...			5s.
1788	M ^r Steddy for putting the third bell in tune	...				10s. 6 <i>d.</i>
	Set of bell ropes	...	...	...	...	19s.
1789	M ^r Sibert for ringing money	...	...			5s.
1790—January 3.	Paid M ^r Springett for Brasses for the					
	bells	...	...	...	1 <i>li.</i> 8s. 3½ <i>d.</i>	

Very hearty thanks to Canon Welldon and his intelligent parish clerk, Mr. Robert Head.

KESTON.

DEDICATION UNKNOWN.

1 Bell.

I., 22-in. THOMAS BARTLET MADE ME 1621

T. R. E. Item ij small bells of brasse suted in the steple on handbell of
brasse and one smale sacryng bell.

Only rung for service and at funerals.

Thanks to Rector, Rev. C. H. Wright.

KIDBROOKE.

ST. JAMES.

1 Bell.

I., 36-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1866

* Part of cost of recasting probably included in this ; Steddy was doubtless Mears' local agent.

Inscriptions.

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KILNDOWN.

CHRIST CHURCH.

6 Bells.

I., 32-in. }
II., III., IV., V., } **Carolus et Georgius Mears Londini fecit**
VI., 45-in. } **A D 1844**

KINGSDOWN BY DEAL. ST. JOHN EVANGELIST.

2 Bells.

Two small bells of quite recent date.

KINGSDOWN BY SITTINGBOURNE. ST. KATHARINE.

2 Bells.

I., 18½-in. Blank.
II., 19-in. **SANCTA KATHERINA ORA PRO NOBIS**
J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1868

No. 1 is somewhat long waisted, and was probably by the same maker as the larger bell which was recast in 1868. See p. 20.

No local customs. Thanks to Rector, the Rev. H. J. Hordern.

KINGSDOWN BY WROTHAM. ST. EDMUND.

1 Bell.

I., 28½-in. **ISAAC ♦ HADLEY ♦ MADE ♦ ME 1713** **GOD ♦ SAUE ♦ THE**
♦ CHURCH ♦ AND ♦ QUEEN

Inscription on sound bow. There are traces of an inscription on the shoulder, but it has been erased previous to casting, possibly for want of room.

T. R. E. Item on bell of bras in the steeple, and on sacryng bell of bras.
"On bell solde."

KINGSNORTH.

ST. MICHAEL.

5 Bells.

I., 28½-in. **PRAIS THE LORD YOUR KING 1728**
II., 29½-in. **SAMUELL KNIGHT FECIT 1727**
III., 31½-in. **ANTHONY IARUIS C W S K FECIT 1727**
IV., 35-in. **JOHN TAYLOR O C W O SAMUELL O KNIGHT FECIT**
1727
V., 39-in. **THOMAS READER RECTOR S K MADE ME 1728**

T. R. E. Item in the stypull iij bells.

Item ij handbells with ij sacring bells.

Bell fittings in bad order ; two of the bells reported to be unusable.

KINGSTONE.

ST. GILES.

3 Bells.

I., 29½-in. Blank.

II., 31½-in. *ioseph hatch made me 1610*

∩ (Fig. 2)

III., 36½-in. + *ANNE : MARIA : GRACIA :
PLENA : DNS : TECU*

For mention of tenor, see p. 11.

Death knell rung as soon as notice is received. Tellers both at beginning and end—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman. For an adult the age is tolled, then bell raised for about a quarter of an hour. For child the treble is tolled for about twenty minutes. The passing bell is occasionally tolled; minute strokes for an hour.

At funerals bell tolled.

SUNDAYS.—“Sermon” bell rung at 9 a.m. For services bells chimed for a quarter of an hour, tenor tolled five minutes, “toll in” on treble last five minutes.

Bells rung on Easter and Christmas morning, and on last night of year.

Bell tolled for vestry meetings.

Ringing on 5th November.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. C. H. Wilkie.

KNOCKHOLT.

ST. KATHARINE.

2 Bells.

I., 24-in. THOMAS JANAWAY OF LONDON FECIT 1764

II., 25-in. ♣ IOHN HODSON MADE ♣ MEE ♣ 1662 ♣ R B ♣
W H

T. R. E. Item in the steeple iij bells of bras.

Apparently no local customs. Thanks to Rector.

KNOWLTON.

ST. CLEMENT.

1 Bell.

I., 23-in. G. W. H. D'AETH ESQ^R 1821.**LAMBERHURST.**

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

I., 28½-in. I MEAN TO MAKE IT UNDERSTOOD THAT THO' I'M LITTLE YET
I'M GOOD

PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1776

- II., 31-in. IF YOU HAVE A JUDICIOUS EAR YOU'LL OWN MY VOICE IS SWEET
AND CLEAR
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT 1779
- III., 33 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. SUCH WOND'ROUS POW'R TO MUSICK'S GIVEN IT ELEVATES THE
SOUL TO HEAVEN
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT 1779
- IV., 36-in. YE PEOPLE ALL WHO HEAR ME RING BE FAITHFUL TO YOUR
GOD AND KING
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT 1779
- V., 40-in. WHILST THUS WE JOIN IN CHEARFULL SOUND MAY LOVE AND
LOYALTY ABOUND. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT
1779
- VI., 43 in. PACK AND CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT. THOMAS
MORLAND ESQ^R. & RICHARD LATTER CHURCH WARDENS
1779

The tenor has upon it also the Morland crest.

Death knell rung as soon as notice received, but not after sunset. Commence with tellers— 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female. Same on smaller bell for children. Then toll for about twenty minutes. This is repeated at 11 a.m. on the day of funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Bells rung for services on 1st Sunday of the month, and on festivals. Chimed on other occasions.

Peals at Easter, Christmas, and the other usual ecclesiastical and loyal anniversaries.

Many thanks to Mr. W. H. Wallis for kindly help and information.

LAMORBY.

V. BEXLEY.

LANGDON, EAST.

ST. AUGUSTINE.

4 Bells.

- I., 26-in. *iosepht hatch made me* 1627 EX DONO M IACOBI
MASTER
- II., 28-in. *iosepht hatch made me* 1627
- III., 30-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ⑥ 1627
- IV., 32-in. ROBERT CATLIN FECIT 1749

Death knell rung as soon as convenient. Tellers at beginning— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman; pause five minutes and then toll for an hour.

Bell tolled at 8 on the morning of funeral, and again for fifteen minutes before service.

SUNDAYS.—Tenor tolled at 9 a.m. ("Mass" bell). For services bells chimed fifteen minutes, and "toll in" on tenor.

Ring on New Year's Eve only, probably accounted for by the bells being in bad order.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. W. D. Astley.

LANGDON (WEST).

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I. Blank.

A small modern bell under arch in gable.

LANGLEY.

ST. MARY.

2 Bells.

I., 28½-in. ∩ THOMAS + HATCH + MADE + ME ∩ 1599

II., 33-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1874

Twenty years ago there were three bells. The tenor, which has disappeared, was a Black Letter bell, with the inscription + Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum +. (See p. 34.) The larger one of the present pair, prior to recasting, was of the date 1621, and cast by Joseph Hatch.

Death knell as soon as notice received, but not after sunset. Tellers at beginning—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman, 3 × 1 for child. Toll thirty minutes, then ring thirty minutes. Bell tolled on morning of funeral from 8 till 9, and again for an hour before service.

SUNDAYS.—Bell tolled for early celebration. For matins and evensong—raise bell half an hour before service and ring for five minutes (called "Sermon" bell), lower and chime for the last ten minutes.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. W. B. Pusey.

LEAVELAND.

ST. LAURENCE.

1 Bell.

I., 18-in. Inscription unproducible in print, a date only.

Bell somewhat eccentric in shape, and probably the work of a local genius, not a bellfounder by trade. What date he meant by the hieroglyph he has put on the bell it is difficult to say—I incline to 1581; the figures are clearly reversed.

LEE.

ST. MARGARET.

8 Bells.

- I., 26-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1886
 II., 27-in. }
 III., 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. } MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1874
 IV., 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. }
 V., 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. { THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON
 VI., 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. { REV^D GEORGE LOCK M.A. RECTOR
 VII., 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. { WILLIAM SIDERY } CHURCHWARDENS 1840.
 { THOMAS POSTANS }
 VIII., 44-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1886

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple.

Item a long ladder and a shorter in the belfrey.

Death knell as soon as possible. Age tolled, but apparently no "tellers."

Bells rung for Sunday, chimed for week-day services. No ringing in Advent or Lent. Ringing on Patron Saint's Day, and on New Year's Eve.

Bell rung for vestry meeting for election of churchwardens.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. F. H. Law.

CHRIST CHURCH.

1 Bell.

- I., 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1854

GOOD SHEPHERD.

1 Bell.

Probably one quite modern bell.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

- I., 24-in. J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1863

ST. MILDRED.

3 Bells.

Church consecrated 1879, the three bells are probably of that date.

LEEDS.

ST. NICHOLAS.

10 Bells.

- I., 27-in. THE GIFT OF THE HON: ROBERT FAIRFAX OF
 LEEDS CASTLE R C 1751
 II., 29-in. Same. R C 1751
 III., 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. Same. R^T CATLIN FECIT 1751

- IV., 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. THE GIFT OF HON: ROBERT FAIRFAX OF LEEDES
CASTLE R C 1751
- V., 32-in. HEN: MEREDITH ESQ^R OF LEEDS ABBY BENE-
FACTOR R^T CATLIN 1751
- VI., 34-in. WILLIAM WOOLLETT ROBERT HATCH CH WAR-
DENS R CATLIN FECIT 1751
- VII., 36-in. IOHN \dagger WILNAR \dagger 1638
- VIII., 39-in. Same.
- IX., 43-in. HONORI \dagger DEI \dagger VSVI \dagger ECCLESIAE IOHN \dagger WILNAR
1638
- X., 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. HONORI DEI VSVI ECÆTIÆ MEMORIÆ IOHAN-
NIS LAMBE XPOFER WOLLET C W IOSEPHVS
HATCH ME FECIT O 1617

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Tenor bell tolled for half an hour, and then rung for the same space of time.

On morning of funeral, at 8 o'clock, strike eight bells—three times for man, twice for woman, once for child; then raise tenor and ring at intervals for forty-five minutes. Tenor tolled for an hour at time of funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Bells used for services only; "ring in" on treble last two minutes. Peal on last night of year.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. A. P. Morris.

LEEDS CASTLE.

Clock Bell. $\frac{1}{1}$ Ian \odot m \odot rrrr \odot xxx \odot u
 \square \square \square

A *striking* witness to the fact that a clock is so called because it strikes on a cloche or bell. It would seem probable that the first clocks were like this, without a face, denoting the time only by striking on a bell or bells at certain intervals of time.

I believe that the mechanism of this clock is very interesting, and that it is of the same date as the bell, viz., 1435. That it should have lasted for four centuries and a half bears strong testimony to the faithful workmanship of its maker. It is without doubt the oldest clock remaining in any secular edifice in England.

I believe the bell to be of French manufacture; not only from the fact of the inscription being in French, but from the medallions below the inscrip-

tion band. They depict the Blessed Virgin and Child, the Crucifixion, and St. Michael slaying the dragon (see frontispiece). Such medallions are quite usual on French bells, and quite unknown on English ones of this date. So far as I know it is a unique example in this country. I am much indebted to Mrs. Wykeham-Martin for permission to take squeezes of the inscription, etc.

In addition to its use as a clock bell it is used for domestic notices, and the curfew is rung on it every night at 8. Local tradition affirms that this has never been omitted since it was first hung. It is worn rather thin in the sound bow where the clapper strikes, and needs attention; but I am afraid quarter-hanging would be no use, as it would bring the clock hammer on to the weak part, and so tend to hasten a crack.

LEIGH.

ST. MARY.

5 Bells.

I., 26-in.	} MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1871 THOMAS MAY VICAR
II., 28½-in.	
III., 31-in.	
IV., 33½-in.	
V., 36-in.	

Prior to the recasting, the bells were inscribed as follows :

I., 25-in.	THE GIFT OF ABRAHAM HARRISSON ESQ ^R 1731
II., 26½-in.	THE OF ABRAHAM HARRISSON ESQR 1731
III., 29½-in.	I ♠ W ♠ 1636
IV., 31-in.	I ♠ W ♠ MADE ♠ ME 1636
V., 33½-in.	H W 1640

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Tenor for adults, a smaller bell for children. Tellers—3 × 3 for a male, 3 × 2 for a female.

Bell tolled at funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Bell rung at 8 ("Matins Bell") and 9 a.m. ("Mass Bell"), and after morning service (Qy. "Angelus" bell, or reminiscence of "Sanctus" bell ringing).

Peals at Easter, Christmas, and on New Year's Eve.

Ringling on 5th November (happily) fallen into disuse.

Best thanks to the Vicar, Rev. H. R. Collum.

LENHAM.

ST. MARY.

8 Bells.

- I., 29-in. ROBERT CATLIN FECIT 1751 ○○○○○○
 II., 30-in. Same.
 III., 32-in. RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1709
 IV., 33½-in. Same.
 V., 36½-in. *Robertus + mot + me + fecit* 1592 ☉
 VI., 39½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1619
 VII., 43-in. RICHARD BARNARD EDWARD HOPE CHURCH WARDENS
 ROBERT CATLIN FECIT 1751
 VIII., 50½-in. THOMAS ROBBINS RICHARD CARTER CHVRCH
 WARDENS IAMES BARTLET MADE ME 1686 ☉

The weights are as follows :

	Cwt.	qr.	lb.
I.	6	0	24
II.	8	2	8
III.	10	2	10
IV.	12	3	1
V.	14	2	8
VI.	16	3	6
VII.	18	2	4
VIII.	23	0	0

No information as to local customs.

The following extracts from the parish accounts were kindly furnished to Mr. Tyssen by a former Vicar, the Rev. Charles Parkin, in 1855 :

			<i>lib.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1682	It. paid to Robert Hyham for trussing the Bells	...	00	03	00
	It. paid for works about the Bells to Tapley	...	01	10	06
1683	It. paid for a lock for y ^e Belfrey door	...	00	01	04
	It. paid for belropes and putting them on	...	01	16	10
1684	It. paid for mending a belwheel & nails	...	00	01	00
	It. paid for a Clapper for y ^e Great Bell	...	01	07	00
1685	It. paid Jo ⁿ Tapley in p ^t for hanging the bells	...	05	05	00
	It. paid Jo ⁿ Tritton for a new sett of Bell Ropes	...	01	06	00
	It. paid Jo ⁿ Tapley for the new Bell	...	23	05	00
	It. paid to Jo ⁿ Tapley in full for hanging y ^e Bells	...	05	00	00
1687	It. paid Bromfield for new hanging the Tenor and re- pairing y ^e other bells	...	08	00	00

				<i>lib.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
	It. pd Ad: Walrish for a Bell rope ... ..	...	...	00	05	00
	It. pd Mr Bartlett the Bell founder ... ..	...	...	17	17	09
	It. pd for skirting & mending y ^e Bells ... ..	...	...	00	05	00
	It. pd Alban for work about y ^e Bells & Dyall ... ..	...	...	00	02	06
	It. pd at trying y ^e Bells ... ..	...	...	00	04	00
	It. pd for Oyle for y ^e Bells ... ..	...	...	00	01	06
1688	It. pd R. Ffox for Boarding y ^e Bell Loft ... ..	...	...	03	01	00
	It. pd Jn ^o Parker for ringing y ^e Bell ... ..	...	...	00	10	00
	It. pd him for oyle abt y ^e Bells & a dust Basket ... ..	...	...	00	01	03
1689	Allow'd y ^e Ringers Gunpowder Day ... ..	...	...	00	02	06
	pd Ja Parker for ringing y ^e Bell ... ..	...	...	00	10	00
	pd to Mr Oliver for Bell ropes ... ..	...	...	01	00	00
	Spent on y ^e Ringers at y ^e Coronation ... ..	...	...	00	06	00
1690	Spent on y ^e Ringers one Gunpowder Treason & proclamation Day of King Will. & Queen Mary ... ..	...	...	00	10	00
	pd James Parker for Ringing of Curfirs ... ..	...	...	00	20	00
	Spent on Bromfield att the hanging & fitting the Bells ... ..	...	...		3	6
1691	The Ringers for Ringing on the Kings Happy Return from Ireland on y ^e 25 Der: and the 1 of Jan ... ..	...	...		10	0
	John Bromfield for hanging the bells with 2 new Stocks and fixing them in order ... ..	...	...	9	9	0
	p ^d for a sett of New Bell Ropes ... ..	...	...	1	10	0
	for Ringing on the Coronation Day ... ..	...	...		2	6
	p ^d James Parker for Ringing the 8 o'clock Bell ... ..	...	...		10	0
1692	Paid the Ringers at the Queen's Birthday ... ..	...	...		2	6
	Paid for the Ringers the 5 th of November ... ..	...	...		5	0
	Paid for the Ringers the 26 th of November ... ..	...	...		5	0
	Paid for the Ringers the 1 January ... ..	...	...		2	6
	Paid John Oliver for a Clock rop ... ..	...	...		12	0
	Paid Parker for looking to the Clock... ..	...	...	1	0	0
	Paid Parker for ringing the Night Bell ... ..	...	...		10	0
1694	Given to the Ringers at the Kings return from Flanders ... ..	...	...		2	6
	Paid James Parker for ringing the evening Bell ... ..	...	...		10	0
1695	ffor oyle for y ^e Clock & Bells ... ..	...	...		1	0

		<i>lib.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1697	ffor oyle and Brooms for y ^e Bells of Church ...		2	6
1698	P ^d M ^r Road for a pint of Oyle for y ^e Bells ...		0	9
	Allowed y ^e Ringers att several times on several occasions ...	1	0	0
1700	Paid Transom for ringing y ^e Bell ...	12		3
1701	Paid Transom for ringing y ^e Bell & looking after y ^e Clock...	1	10	0
	For peeing y ^e Clapper of a Bell & sundry smith's work ...	12	0	$\frac{1}{2}$
1703	Paid Transom towards looking after y ^e Clock & Ringing y ^e Bell 5s. for 1 dozen of Tresses 6s. ...	11		0
	Given y ^e Ringers att y ^e victory over y ^e ffrench ...	1		6
1704	Paid Transom for cleaning y ^e Bell Loft ...	0		6
	Paid John Tritton for y ^e Black Ropes ...	15		6
	Paid Transom for digging a hole for y ^e Chimes waite ...	0		6
1707	Spent on the Ringers new years day ...	5		0
	Paid Peter Epps for mending y ^e Bell Clapper ...	8		0
	Spent on the Ringers on St. Georges Day ...	5		0
1709	Paid Edward Gosling for a Clock wheel ...	1		0
1712	Spent on y ^e Ringers att A Day of rejoycing ...	5		0
	P ^d M ^r Bromfield Towards his looking after y ^e Bells 2 years & towards ye compleating y ^e treble & y ^e second Bells being new cast & hanging them up againe ...	12	0	0
	P ^d John Bromfield towards y ^e new casting of y ^e Bells as appears by Bills ...	6	0	0
	P ^d Transom for a chime rope ...	1	10	0
	P ^d for y ^e Ringers at severall times ...	4	0	0
1717	For Candles & Oyle for y ^e Bells ...	8		11
1720	Paid Transom for a chyme rope as appears by Bill ...	1	4	7
1726	paid Good ⁿ Transom for a chyme rope ...	17		0
1728	Paid for Ringing eight times ...	2	0	0
1733	For a set of Bell Ropes ...	1	8	0

LEWISHAM.

ST. MARY.

8 Bells.

I., 28-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1819

II., 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1766

- III., 31½-in. Same as No. I.
 IV., 33¾-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1859
 HONORABLE & REV^d H LEGGE DCL VICAR
 S. SOUTHORN }
 CHARLES ATKINS } CHURCHWARDENS
 V., 37-in. YE PEOPLE ALL WHO HEAR ME RING BE FAITHFULL TO
 YOUR GOD AND KING
 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1777
 VI., 39¼-in. CAST IN 1743 JN^o BAKER & GEO: THORNTON CH. WAR-
 DENS RECAST IN 1776 PAUL VALENTINE & JN^o EVENS
 CH. WARDENS
 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
 VII., 43¾-in. HENRY CORBETT & JOSEPH HARTWELL CH. WARDENS 1766
 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT
 VIII., 48½-in. THIS BELL WAS PAID FOR BY VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION
 1777 PAUL VALENTINE & JOHN EVENS CHURCH WAR-
 DENS PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT

T. R. E. Item iiij greate bells of brasse sutyd in the Steple.
 Item on sants bell of brasse called the morowmas bell.
 Item on hand bell & ij sacryng bells of brasse.

Death knell rung on day of death before sunset. Tenor bell used. Tellers
 —3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female; then raised and tolled, minute strokes.

Funeral peals when ordered. Bells half muffled. First the age is rung on
 the eight bells, and then tolled on tenor; 'then drop ten down to twenty, and
 then drop one to nothing, first on the eight bells,' and then tenor tolled. Finish
 with age tolled on tenor.

DAILY SERVICES.—3rd, 4th, and 5th chimed.

SUNDAYS.—Same three chimed for early celebration, and for children's
 service in afternoon. All eight rung on the first Sunday in the month for
 morning and evening service, and only chimed on other Sundays.

No ringing in Lent.

Peals on "royal and parochial" occasions, and on New Year's Eve. Also
 for the Easter vestry. Not (happily) on 5th November.

A "salary" (qy. endowment) of £30 15s. per annum for ringing and
 chiming.

Best thanks to the Rev. F. Payne Galloway.

LEWISHAM.

ASCENSION.

1 Bell.

Consecrated 1883; presumably one bell of about that date.

ST. MARK.

1 Bell.

Built 1870; probably one bell of about that date.

ST. STEPHEN.

1 Bell.

I., 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. G MEARS & CO FOUNDERS LONDON 1864

SOUTHEND CHAPEL.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

TRANSFIGURATION.

1 Bell.
















From the Whitechapel Foundry, dated 1883.

LEYBOURNE.

SS. PETER & PAUL.

2 Bells (1 and a Priest's Bell).

I., 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. 1826

II., 34-in.   THOMAS   GODDIN   GEYTELMAZ   1585 
 ROBOARD  OLVER  YOUZAN   E  D

The larger bell is by Gyles Reve; it has curious figures of beasts upon it, *more suo*.

There were formerly three bells, but the tower fell some sixty years ago, and two of the three were broken and sold, the small priest's bell being provided in their stead, and the balance of the purchase money no doubt went in 'repairs.'

The family of Olver or Oliver was of some abidance here. Oliver in or about 1680 left an annual sum of £6 for binding apprentices.

LEYSDOWN.

ST. CLEMENT.

2 Bells.

I.) CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1874
 II.) VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO

Prior to 1874 there was here only one bell, which is now at Murston. There is room in the turret for a third bell. The two present ones are inaccessible for measurement.

No local uses.

LINTON.

ST. NICHOLAS.

6 Bells.

- I., 29-in. ♣ PRAISE ♣ THE ♣ LORD ♣ 1717
 II., 31½-in. ♣ IOHN ♣ WAYLETT ♣ MADE ♣ ME 1717
 III., 33-in. ♣ IOHN ♣ ♣ RICH ♣ C W 1717
 IV., 35-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1824
 V., 40-in. THO^S LESTER MADE ME 1748
 VI., 45-in. T LESTER OF LONDON MADE ME M^R IOHN MARTIN & M^R
 ALEXANDER USBON CHURCH WARDENS 1746

LITTLEBOURNE.

ST. VINCENT.

5 Bells.

- I., 28-in. D ♢ D IOHN PALMAR MADE THIS BELL 1639
 II., 28½-in. + SOLI DEO HONOR ET
 GLORIA ∇ O
 C (Fig. 36)

- III., 32½-in. ioseph hatch made me 1610
 IV., 36-in. Rubertus + mof + me + fecit + 1597 M B Ⓢ
 V., 39-in. D D Ⓢ 1650 WILLIAM HATCH MADE ME

For mention of No. 2, see p. 57.

DEATH KNELL.—Tellers—3 for man, 2 for woman, 1 for child.

Bells chimed for Sunday services.

Ringin on New Year's Eve only.

A bell tolled for vestry meetings.

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. N. H. McGachen.

LONGFIELD.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

1 Bell.

- I., 15½-in. + WELDELMYS : REVEL : ME :
 REGIT

T. R. E. Item ij litle bells of bras suted in the steple.

Mem: a handbell of brass presented to be stolen.

See p. 14 for account of this interesting piece of antiquity. Access rather difficult. The "descensus," however, is "facilis;" namely, by sliding down the roof of the church.

Death knell rung "when convenient," clerk living at some distance.

Bell tolled for about twenty minutes. No tellers.

Thanks to the Rector, Rev. P. H. Jennings.

LOOSE.

ALL SAINTS.

3 Bells.

I., 31-in. $\begin{array}{c} \bigcirc \\ \text{I} \\ \bigcirc \text{H} \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc \end{array}$ (on Waist)

II., 33-in. *ioseph hatch made me* ☉ 1603

III., 37½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1635

Tenor cracked in the sound-bow.

The treble is a decided puzzle. There is a bell similarly inscribed at Navestock, Essex. The parish accounts here, which go far back, contain no mention of its casting, which argues in favour of its being older than 1615. See p. 61.

Curfew bell formerly rung here, but discontinued at least fifty years.

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Age signified by size of bell used, viz., tenor for adults, middle bell for boy or girl, treble for children.

A knell on morning of funeral, and bell tolled at time of service.

SUNDAYS.—Eight o'clock ("Matins") bell rung. A mid-day bell was rung until about thirty years ago. For services, bells chimed fifteen minutes, then tenor ten minutes; "ring in" on treble five minutes ("Parson's" bell).

Ringing on Christmas Day and last night of year.

Very hearty thanks to Vicar, the Rev. J. D. Kingdon, for above notes, and also for access to parish books, from which I have extracted the following:

1615	It. Layd out for drawing the covenant betwixt Joseph Hach and vs 	2s.	6d.
	It. Layd out for my expenses when the bell was cast & when I went to buy y ^e timber ...	1s.	6d.
	It. Layd out for wayinge carriiing and fetchinge y ^e bell 	7s.	0d.
	It. Layd out for lether and neue makeing the batheracks for the bells 	3s.	0d.
	It. Layd out for boards for makeinge and mend- inge the wheels 	2s.	8d.
	It. Layd out for the carpenters worke ...	2 <i>li</i> .	0s. 6d.
	It. Layd out for 48 <i>l</i> of ouer mettles to Josheph Hatch 	2 <i>li</i> .	0s. 0d.
	It. Layd out for makeinge the cradle ...	0s.	8d.
	It. for casting the bell 	4 <i>li</i> .	10s. 0d.

1606	payd Jesper Shaw for mendind y ^e bell ...	os.	6 <i>d.</i>
? 1616	payd Jesper Shaw for mending y ^e bell ...	1 <i>s.</i>	0 <i>d.</i>
1617	layd out for mendinge the badricke ...		ix <i>d.</i>
1618	Itē. payd to John Terry for three bell ropes ...	vjs.	
	Itē. payd to John Newport for tucking vpp the bells ...	ijs.	vj <i>d.</i>
	Itē. payd for two new Badricks & mending the ould ...		
	Itē. payd William Charlton for mending the clappers ...		
1619	Item for mending y ^e bellfree window ...	ijs.	
	Itē. for a locke for y ^e bellfree dore ...		xiiij <i>d.</i>
1620	layd out to Goodman Terry for two bell ropes for oyl for the bells ...	iijs.	vj <i>d.</i>
			iiij <i>d.</i>
1621	laid out for three bell Ropes ...	vs.	
	laid out to John Newport for mendinge of the fram of the bells and for shingells and other worke ...	iijs.	
	laid out for nailles and for mendinge of the clapere of the great bell and mending the badrickes ...	js.	iiij <i>d.</i>
1622	Item payd for two bell ropes ...	iijs.	vj <i>d.</i>
	Item payd for mending a Badrick ...		iiij <i>d.</i>
1623	for leather to mend the badrickes and for mend of them ...		vj <i>d.</i>
	Item payd to hem (Newport) more for worke he did about the belles to fasten them in ther stockes ...	iijs.	ix <i>d.</i>
	Item payd to hem more for the second bell wheele making ...	iiijs.	
1624	Item payde for bell ropes ...	vs.	
	Item payde for a badricke ...		
1625	Item for mending the Clapper of the great Bell ...		xvj <i>d.</i>
	Item for mending the great bell Badricke ...		iiij <i>d.</i>
	Item paide to John Poste for new hangene the midell bell ...	js.	

1626	Itē. for bell Ropes	5s.	6d.
1628	pd wm Charlton for mending the clapper of the tennor bell	3s.	2d.
1629	Inprimis paid to Joseph Hatch for newe cast- ing & making of the Tennor Bell 4 <i>li.</i>	13s.	4d.
	Item to him for ouer mettall 4 <i>li.</i>	4s.	0d.
	Item for getting out of the Bell	1s.	1d.
	Item paid to M ^r Mastirs for suspending ...	1s.	0d.
	Item paid for loading the bell... ..	0s.	11d.
	Item for cariage of the bell	12s.	0d.
	Item for charges when the Bell was caried ...	1s.	2d.
	Item for fetching & waying the Bell	2s.	5d.
	Item for helpe to way the Bell at Maidstone	0s.	5d.
	Item p ^d for sending a letter to Joseph Hatch	0s.	6d.
	Item pd for horse hier thether	1s.	0d.
	Item for getteng the Bell into the steeple ...	3s.	7d.
	Item pd to Poste for newe hanging & mend- ing	8s.	0d.
	Item pd for 3 new Badrickes	6s.	10d.
	Item pd for 3 newe ropes	6s.	6d.
	Item pd to Williā Cha'lton for mending the clapper of the Tennor Bell	10s.	4d.
	Item pd for making & writing the Articles of Indenture betweene Hatch & vs	4s.	0d.
1631	Itm to Post for a planke to fasten the frame of the Bells	1s.	0d.
	Itm more to Post for his worke about the same	1s.	6d.
	Itm paid to Abraham Charlton for hookes and rides of the church gate & for nailes & Iron wedgs to make fast the frames of the Bells	3s.	4d.
	Itm paid to Terry for Bell ropes	5s.	6d.
	Itm for mending the Bawdricke of the greate Bell	1s.	0d.
	Itm paid to Willm Chalton for mending the Bell clappers... ..	2s.	6d.
1634-5	Itm for a Bell wheele	xs.	

	Itm. for Bellropes	...	...	...	...	vs.	
	Itm. mendinge the Bell wheele	...	...	...	...	iijs.	
	Itm. for board to mend the bell wheele	...	...	...	...		viijd.
1635	Itm. delivered the Belfounder in hand	...	...	...	...	iijs.	iiijd.
	Itm. for writing th'articles for the Belfounder...	...	...	...	...	iiijs.	
	Itm. paid Goodman Chapman for one day and a halfes worke and for a catch for the Bell...	...	...	...	...	iijs.	
	Itm. for wayenge the greate bell w ^{ch} weighes 930 ^{li} paid for it	...	...	...	...	js.	ijd.
	Itm. for wayenge the greate bell when she came home	...	...	...	...	js.	iiijd.
	Itm. for fetching & carienge the Bell	...	...	...	...	vjs.	viijd.
	Itm. for Breade & beere when the Bell was pulled up	...	...	...	...		viijd.
	Itm. paid to Goodman Chapman for two dayes worke about the Bell (&c.)	...	...	...	...	iijs.	
	Itm. for two Bell Ropes	...	...	...	...	vs.	vjd.
	Itm. for Lether for the Baudricks	...	...	...	...	ijjs.	vd.
	Itm. for the makinge of the Baudrickes	...	...	...	...	js.	vjd.
	Itm. paid to the Belfownders man for cominge ow' to hang y ^e clapper	...	...	...	...	ijjs.	ijd.
1636	Itm. layd out to William Tilden for mending the bell whells	...	...	...	...	js.	iiijd.
	Itm. layd out to the bell fownder for casting of the tenor bell	...	...	...	...	iiij <i>℥</i> .	xs.
	Itm. for a quittens	...	...	...	...		vjd.
	Itm. layd out for a Bellrope	...	...	...	...	ijjs.	vjd.
	Itm. for worke about the bells (&c.)	...	...	...	...	js.	
	Itm. layd out for bel ropes	...	...	...	...	vs.	
	Itm. layd out to William Charlton for the bell clappers	..	...	...	...		xijd.
1638	Itime for To beleropes...	...	...	...	...	6s.	4d.
	Itime laid out to John Charton for mending the bells	...	...	...	...	1s.	od.
	Item for a new bele wheele	...	...	...	...	6s.	8d.
1641	layd out to goodman Terry for two bell ropes...	...	...	...	...	vjs.	
1642	paid for two bellropes	...	...	...	...	4s.	6d.
1643	Item paid for bellropes	...	...	...	...	9s.	6d.

1647	It. for three belropse	6s.	0 <i>d.</i>
	"for puting out the Kings Armes"	1s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1649-50	Item paid for three new whiles for the beles ...	1 <i>l.</i> 10s.	0 <i>d.</i>
	It. for iornwork for the beles	6s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1650-51	It. paid for bell ropes	7s.	0 <i>d.</i>
	It. for taking doune the brase in the church...	0s.	2 <i>d.</i>
1653	Itm. paid to John Charlton for yron worke about the Bell wheele	1 <i>j</i> s.	
1657	Item for bellropes	7s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1659	Similar entry	7s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1663	Similar entry	7s.	6 <i>d.</i>
1665	Paid to goodman Chambarlen for a new batha- reck for the bell	1s.	10 <i>d.</i>
	mor for my worke on the beles	0s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. for mending the fram of the beles... ..	2s.	0 <i>d.</i>
	It. paid to goodman Gilbart for tember for the belles frame	9s.	0 <i>d.</i>
	It. for a rope for the greate bele	3s.	4 <i>d.</i>
1666-7	It. for 2 bell Ropes	4s.	6 <i>d.</i>
1668-9	It. payd for mending the bells... ..	5s.	0 <i>d.</i>
	It. for bell rops... ..	7s.	6 <i>d.</i>
1671	It. p ^d for bell Roops	8s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. p ^d for the bethricke of the bells	2s.	6 <i>d.</i>
1672	It. p ^d for mending y ^e Bell	1s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1674	It. p ^d for Bellropes	9s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1676	It. payde for thre bellropes	8s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. mending the bell	2s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1677	It. mending the Bells	2s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1678	It. payd for the bell Rops	9s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1678-9	It. paied to Robart Wilkens for new hinging the belles and mending the wheles... ..	18s.	0 <i>d.</i>
	It. paied for the greate bell Rope	3s.	6 <i>d.</i>
	It. paied to Goodman Hatch* for iorne worke for the belles... ..	7s.	9 <i>d.</i>
1679-80	paid for belropes	5s.	0 <i>d.</i>
1680-81	for a new belrope	2s.	6 <i>d.</i>

* (?) William Hatch, churchwarden this year.

1681-2	For 2 new Belropes	4s.	6d.
1682-3	p ^d Wilkins mending y ^e Bell	1s.	0d.
	p ^d for Three Bellrops	7s.	6d.
	It. paid to goodman Wilkins for hanging the bel	7s.	0d.
1683-4	It. paid to goodman Wilkins for mending the belles... ..	1s.	4d.
1685	It. for y ^e belropes and 3 matts	10s.	0d.
	It. for work about y ^e bells and belwheels ...	3s.	6d.
	It. paid for one bathereck for the lettell bell ...	2s.	0d.
	paied for 3 bell Ropes	7s.	0d.
	paied for a new gouging for the lettell bell and poting it in	2s.	6d.
	It. paied to the Chapender for 5 dayes worke &c. &c. mending . . . the bells	10s.	0d.
1687	It. p ^d to gooman copen for menden the bel whell	2s.	0d.
	It. p ^d for a set of belrops	8s.	6d.
1689-90	It. p ^d Goodman Copen for a new Beel wheele and menden of the other Beels	1 <i>li.</i> 10s.	0d.
1690-1	for belropes	7s.	0d.
	for mending y ^e bell wheels	3s.	0d.
1691-2	for bell ropes	7s.	0d.
1692-3	for mending y ^e bell gugen and lathar	1s.	0d.
	for a nu set of bell ropes	7s.	0d.
1693-4	paid for bell Ropes	7s.	0d.
1702-3	p ^d to Good ^m peirce for a new Stock and wheele for the tennor bell	1 <i>li.</i> 15s.	0d.
	for mending the two other wheels & puting in new Satys Kiehes and fiting in the 6 brasses and taking out 3 godgings and fasening in Againe and two new <i>Jolly Rows</i> * & puting in	1 <i>li.</i> 2s.	0d.
1704-5	p ^d to John Broumfield for Hanging y ^e Bells ...	12 <i>li.</i> 0s.	0d.
	gave to y ^e Ringers at y ^e Queen's Coronation...	2s.	0d.
1707-8	p ^d for a winch for y ^e Bells	2s.	0d.
	p ^d for Oyl for y ^e Bells	0s.	6d.

* *Sic*, qy. meaning.

1725-6	To M ^r Stevenson for mending y ^e Bell weals ...	1 <i>li.</i>	12 <i>s.</i>	0 <i>d.</i>
1726-7	Gave the Ringers at the King's Crown ^{at} ...		3 <i>s.</i>	0 <i>d.</i>
1729-30	Will Jeffery for mending the Bells frame & Stuff	1 <i>li.</i>	6 <i>s.</i>	0 <i>d.</i>
1758	Paid for Trushes* and Bell Ropes		17 <i>s.</i>	0 <i>d.</i>
1759	p ^d Abell Crispe for Sheetting† and new linding the ball of the Bell Clapper... ..		5 <i>s.</i>	0 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d for a leather for the Clapper		1 <i>s.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>
	p ^d for Bell Ropes		8 <i>s.</i>	0 <i>d.</i>
1764-5	for new Stocks‡	1 <i>li.</i>	14 <i>s.</i>	0 <i>d.</i>
1778	A sett Bell ropes		14 <i>s.</i>	0 <i>d.</i>

The following copy of the contract made with Joseph Hatch for re-casting the tenor bell was made by Mr. Tyssen, some years ago, from the original in the possession of Walter B. Gilbert, Esq., of Maidstone :

Articles of Agreement indented made and agreed upon the seventeenth day of September anno domini 1635 Between Henry Burdon and Thomas Crispe Churchwardens of the Parish of Loose in the County of Kent of the one part and Joseph Hatch of Ulcombe in the County aforesaid Bellfounder of the other part as followeth viz. :

Imprimus the said Churchwardens shall carry or cause to be carried and delivered unto the said Joseph Hatch at his dwelling house in Ulcombe the Tenor Bell of the parish Church of Loose at or before the last day of this present month of September to the intent to have the same Bell newcast being now broken.

Item the said Churchwardens or their Successors shall pay unto the said Joseph Hatch his executors or assignes in and upon the last Thursday which shall be in the month of May now next ensuing in or at the now dwelling-house of Gabriel Knight situate in Maidstone in the County above written the sum of four pounds and ten shillings of current English money for the new casting of the said Tenor Bell.

Item the said Joseph Hatch shall new cast the said Tenor Bell and make the same tuneable with the rest of the Bells in Loose aforesaid and also shall at or before the first day of November next ensueing the date hereof deliver the said Bell sound and tuneable at Ulcombe aforesaid unto the said Churchwardens or their successors requiring the same. And if it shall happen the

* Hassocks.

† Qy. shutting or casting.

‡ Not for the bells, I think.

said Bell not to prove sound and tuneable to the rest of Bells in Loose aforesaid then the said Joseph Hatch shall make the same sound and tuneable within two months after the bell is delivered unto him and so continue by the space of one whole year after she is hanged fit for the ringing and if the said Bell shall be broken in ringing within one year after the same shall be hanged in the steeple of the Church at Loose or not prove tuneable to the rest of the Bells there then the said Joseph Hatch having the Bell brought to him to Ulcombe shall new cast the same so often till the same bell shall continue sound and tuneable for the space of one whole year after the same shall be hanged in the steeple ready to be rung.

Item the said Churchwardens or their successors shall pay unto the said Joseph Hatch his executors or assigns on the same last Thursday in May at the place aforesaid twelve pence a pound for each pound of good metal which shall be put into the Bell if the Bell shall weigh so much the more so that the same metal which shall be so put in exceed not the weight of twenty-five pounds weight and if the same good metal which shall be so put into the Bell aforesaid shall exceed the same weight of twenty-five pounds then the said Churchwardens shall pay no more for the same but four pence for each pound weight of good metal which shall be put into the Bell aforesaid.

Item if the said Joseph Hatch shall take any metal out from the Bell aforesaid or spoil or waste any that then he shall pay for each pound twelve pence so that there be not above twenty-five pounds taken away or wasted and if there be more than twenty-five pounds taken away of the metal of the Bell or wasted that then the said Joseph Hatch shall pay thirteen pence for each pound weight that shall be taken away or wasted from the entire weight of the Bell aforesaid.

In witness whereof the parties aforesaid to these Articles interchangeably have put their hands and seals the day and year above written.

Joseph Hatch I H his mark.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

John Charlton

Henry H B Broman

his mark.

LUDDENHAM.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I, 32-in. Joseph Hatch made me 1610

T B S C

○ ○ ○

○

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Commence with tellers— 3×3 for male, 3×2 for a female, then toll.

This is repeated early on the morning of the funeral, and before the actual service the bell is tolled.

Otherwise, the bell is only used to summon to service.

Hasted states that there were three bells here in his time, in which I think he is probably correct ; there is plenty of room in the tower for three bells. The frame, however, is for one only, and the sexton knows of no tradition of there ever having been more.

LUDDESDOWN.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

3 Bells.

I., 28-in. Blank.

II., 31-in. + (Fig. 20) ♣ + (Fig. 5) ∩ (Fig. 19) ♣

III., 34-in. + ihc maria kateyina

Mears & Stainbank Founders London 1866

The treble seems to be a pre-Reformation bell. For mention of No. 2, see p. 36. The old inscription on the former tenor has been reproduced by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank ; but if it is intended for a fac-simile, it is certainly not the best I have ever seen. See p. 41 for an account of the former tenor, which was certainly a Nottingham production.

Passing bell rung as soon as possible after death. Minute strokes for about half an hour. Tellers— 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female, both at beginning and end. Tenor bell for adults, middle one for children.

A bell tolled for about half an hour before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Treble bell rung for early celebration ; all three chimed for other services, ringing in on one bell last five minutes.

One bell rung for daily matins and evensong.

Best thanks to the Rev. A. Wigan, Rector.

LULLINGSTONE.

ST. BOTOLPH.

1 Bell.

I., 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. Blank.

Bell apparently coeval with the church, so says Dr. Raven in his MS. notes.

T. R. E. Item one bell in the steeple.

Mem: excepte on bell whereof a cloke is nowe made
for the comoditie of the parish.

LUTON.

CHRIST CHURCH.

1 Bell.

I., 17½-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1842

No local uses apparently. Thanks to Rector, the Rev. E. A. Claydon.

LYDD.

ALL SAINTS.

5 Bells.

I., 30-in. ~~io~~seph hatch made me 1608

II., 32-in. Same.

III., 34½-in. Same.

IV., 38-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME 1607

V., 43-in. IOHN * HVDSON * MADE * ME * 1693 ○ ○ HENRY
○ IENKIN ○ ○ RICHARD ○ HANNEKIN ○
CHVRCH ○ WARDENS ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Tenor bell tolled (twelve strokes) on the first Saturday in each month for sessions. The curfew bell is also rung.*

There are most interesting Corporation accounts (which I have vainly endeavoured to get at), containing frequent mention of the church bells. From the report on them given in the fifth report of H.M. Historical MSS. Commission, I have extracted the following :

- 1445 Paid Thomas Love carpenter for making the gynne for casting† of the belfry. Paid Richard Wodeman Carpenter for making doors for the new belfry 26s. 8d.
- 1445-6 Received of lygte selvyr 30s. this year which was spent for making of the beleflore and hanging the bells. The gift of William Say Esquire to the new work of the belfry 3s. 4d. Lead for the belfry mentioned bought in London & shipped to Sandwich.
- 1447-9 Delivered to the Church Wardens of Lyde for expenses upon the hangyng of the bells 53s. 4d. Paid John Bale and Laurence Elys their expenses at London about the bells 9s. 10d.
- 1449-50 Paid John Buntynge an old debt due to the servant of the Bailiff of Marshelonde that carts might pass upon the wall (super Wallam) when the belfry was making according to a promise made to him 20d.

* "Arch. Cant.," xiii. 255.

† I don't think this word can be correct.

LYDDEN.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I., 9½-in. Blank.

T. R. E. First ij bells in the stepell.

Apparently no local uses worth record. Thanks to Vicar, Rev. J. L. Latham.

LYMINGE.

SS. MARY AND EADBURGA.

6 Bells.

I., 33-in. W^M SAWKINS J CLOAK CHURCH WARDENS 1810 T MEARS &
SON OF LONDON FECIT

II., 33½-in. IOHN ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1631 ♦ W N

III., 34-in. MESSRS THO^S FORDERD & JN^O SWAINE CHURCH WARDENS
W^M MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1785IV., 38-in. WILL^M MARCH ROBART WOOD C W SAM[—] KNIGHT
FECIT 1727

V., 41-in. Same as on No. III.

VI., 46-in. RICHARD KENNETT CHURCH WARDEN 1759
LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT

T. R. E. Item v belles in the steple.

Item ij hand belles and ij sacryng belles.

In 1756-7, Mr. Faussett reports the bells here to be five in number, with the following inscriptions :

I. Present No. II.

II. J. B. 1585. In y^e name of God Amen T H

III. Present No. IV.

IV. William Ridgen Samuel Knight fecit 1727

V. Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis.

Thomas Duffyn, Vicar of this parish, who died 1508, bequeathed £20 towards the tower of the church, and £12 for a new bell. This last was the old tenor (which was recast in 1759), of which Mr. Faussett has preserved for us the inscription.

Local tradition affirms that the smallest bell was cast on the green near the church, and that silver coins were thrown into the molten metal by members of the Honywood family of Sibton. This no doubt refers to the *old* treble (present 2nd), and is probably true.

Best thanks to the Rev. Canon Jenkins, Rector.

LYMPNE.

ST. STEPHEN.

5 Bells.

- I., 29-in. THO I AM BUT SMALL I WILL BE HEARD AMONGST
YOU ALL ✢ R ✢ CATLIN FECIT 1742
- II., 30½-in. ROBERT CATLIN CAST US ALL 1742
- III., 33-in. IOHN BRIDGER IOHN FIRMINGER ROBERT CATLIN
1742
- IV., 36-in. R ✢ C ✢ FECIT 1744
- V., 39½-in. HENRY BACNALL VICAR THOMAS GREENLAND
RICHARD HOWARD CHURCHWARDENS R ✢ C
FECIT 1742

T. R. E. First iiij bells in the stepell.

Apparently no local uses to record. Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. H. B. Biron.

LYNSTEAD.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

5 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. IOHN ✢ WILNAR ✢ MADE ✢ MEE ✢ 1639
- II., 31½-in. *Robertus + mot + me + fecit* 1597 ⑤
- III., 32½-in. IOHN ✢ WILNAR ✢ 1639
- IV., 36-in. RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS 1884
- V., 39½-in. *Robertus + mot + me + fecit* 1600 ⑤

The former No. 4 was by Robert Mot, and a very indifferent specimen of his workmanship.

Death knell rung and differentiated for man, woman, and child, but in what way is not stated. Tolling at funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Eight o'clock ("Matins") bell rung. Two bells tolled (? chimed) for services.

Ringling on morning of Christmas Day and on New Year's Eve.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. J. Hamilton.

MAIDSTONE.

ALL SAINTS

10 Bells.

- I., 30½-in. CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1784
- II., 32-in. Same. 1783
- III., 33½-in. Same 1784
- IV., 34 in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1829

- V., 37-in. Same as Nos. 1 and 3.
 VI., 40½-in. Same.
 VII., 43½-in. W^M MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1786
 VIII., 47-in. Same as Nos. 1 and 3.
 IX., 51-in. Same.
 X., 57-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON
 REV^D JAMES REEVE MINISTER
 HENRY ARGLES }
 THOMAS LAURANCE } CHURCHWARDENS 1840

MAIDSTONE. HOLY TRINITY. 1 Bell.

I., 26-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1828

ST. FAITH. 1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. JAMES (Mission Church). 1 Bell.

One modern bell.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST. 1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS. 6 Bells.

A light peal of six by Warner and Sons. It is hoped some day to add two more—treble and tenor—and room is left in the frame for them.

Bells rung for Sunday morning and evening services, chimed for all others.

ST. PAUL. 1 Bell.

I., 29½-in. NAYLOR VICKERS & C^O 1860 SHEFFIELD N^O 2129
 E. RIEPE'S PATENT CAST STEEL

ST. PHILIP. 1 Bell.

One bell by Gillett, Bland, and Co., of Croydon—weight, 8 cwt.

ST. PETER. 1 Bell.

A small 3 cwt. tinkler by Gillett & Co., of Croydon.

ST. STEPHEN—TOVIL. 1 Bell.

I., 25-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1841

MALLING (EAST).

ST. JAMES.

6 Bells.

- I., 29-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1831.
 II., 29½-in. THIS BELL WAS ADDED BY BENEFACTORS 1 B ME
 FECIT 1695 ☸
 III., 31-in. IAMES BARTLET ME FECIT 1695
 IV., 32½-in. Same.
 V., 36-in. Same.
 VI., 40-in. IOHN GROSSE VICAR 1695 ABRAHAM WALTER
 THOMAS HOBERT CH WARDENS
 ☸ IAMES BARTLET ME FECIT

Death knell rung as soon as practicable. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.

Bell tolled at funerals. For old ringers a dumb peal is rung.

SUNDAYS.—Bells used for services only. Treble bell tolled for early celebration. For other services bells chimed fifteen minutes and treble tolled fifteen minutes. Sermon bell discontinued for many years; traditionally it (the treble, present 2nd bell) was rung on Sunday mornings when there was no sermon.

Vestry bell disused fifty years.

Peals on Easter Day, Christmas Day, Epiphany, Ascension Day, Whitsun Day, and Harvest Thanksgiving; also on Queen's Birthday and Accession Day. Ringing on 5th November stopped (Deo Gratias) by present Vicar, eight years ago.

The present treble was added in 1831, and the old "Sanctus" bell, which hung at the top of the tower, was done away with. This last was locally known as the "Tinker" (? Tinkler).

Best thanks to the Vicar, Rev. S. Wigan.

HOLY TRINITY, NEW HYTHE.

3 Bells.

- I. } No particulars. They are dated 1854, and are all but certainly from
 II. } the Whitechapel Foundry, but I do not find them in the foundry
 III. } lists.

MALLING (WEST).

ST. MARY.

8 Bells.

- I., 26-in. }
 II., 27-in. } MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1869

- III., 28½-in. ♣ IOHN ♦ AN ♦ CHRISTOPHER ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE
 ♦ ME ♦ 1677 ○ ○
 IV., 29½-in. IOHN WILKIN 1637
 V., 31½-in. ABRAHAM MASON IOHN FLEETE CHVRCH-
 WARDENS 1698
 I ☉ B IOHN WEEKLEY IVNIOR GENT
 VI., 34-in. Same as No. 4.
 VII., 37½-in. Same as No. 4.
 VIII., 40½-in. Same as No. 1.

The former tenor had the following inscription :

♣ ○ ○ ○ ♣ IOHN * AN * CHRISTOPHER * HODSON * MADE
 * ME * 1677 ○ ♣ RICHARD * SEAGERS * WILLIAM *
 DVMWOOD * CHVRCH * WARDENS

MAPLESCOMBE.

NO CHURCH.

In 1552 : On little bell of bras broken with the fallying downe oute of the saide steeple decayed aboute ij yeres last past.

MARDEN.

ST. MICHAEL.

6 Bells.

- I., 32-in. AT PROPER TIMES MY VOICE I WILL RAISE & SOUND TO
 MY SUBSCRIBERS PRASE THO^S LESTAR MADE ME 1745
 II., 33½-in. M^R JOHN BURR CHURCH WARDEN 1775 PACK & CHAPMAN
 OF LONDON FECIT
 III., 35½-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1758
 IV., 38-in. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1777
 V., 41-in. THO^S LESTER OF LONDON CAST ME
 GEO OSBORNE & JAMES PACKHAM C^H WARDENS 1745
 VI., 46-in. EDWARD ○ BESBEECH ♣ IOHN * HODSON * MADE
 * ME * 1693 *
 ♣ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ EDWARD * GARVISS * CHVRCH
 * WARDENS

The curfew bell is rung here during the winter months.

Death knell rung as soon as notice given. Tellers—3 × 3 for a man, 2 × 3 for a woman. Tolling at funerals “from the church to the grave.”

SUNDAYS.—Bells rung at 8 (“Matins” bell) and 9 30 a.m. (Qy., Is this

last for 10 o'clock service, or is it the old "Mass" bell a little later than usual?)

Ringin on New Year's Eve.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Sermon bell used to be rung after morning service.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. T. A. Carr.

MARGATE.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

8 Bells.

I., 32-in.	T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1823
II., 33-in.	Same.
III., 36-in.	W ^M MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1785
IV., 39½-in.	Same.
V., 41½-in.	Same.
VI., 42-in.	Same.
VII., 45½-in.	Same.
VIII., 52-in.	JN ^O DANNDDELEON MESS ^{RS} THO ^S WOOD & JN ^O BROOMAN CH. WARDENS 1785 W ^M MEARS OF LONDON FECIT

Hasted notes here six bells, without doubt the present III. to VIII.

Brayley in his "History of Thanet," dated 1819, states that the tower contains a ring of five bells, the 3rd and 4th of which are inscribed respectively with the following lines:

*Virginis Gregarie Vocor Campana Marie
Missi De Celis Habeo Nomen Gabrielis*

And that the tenor was the gift of one of the Dandelyons, and bore this inscription:

Daundeleon

I x S. Trinitate Sacra Sit Hec Campana Beata

It is quite clear that Brayley was copying from some much older writer, as the five bells had been recast into six many years before the date of his book. Probably the tenor was the work of John Sturdy (see p. 38), and as he was living until 1449, the bell is quite likely to have been the gift of the John Dandelyon who died in 1445, and whose brass is still preserved in the church.

Brayley states further, on the authority of Lewis, that the inhabitants of Margate were wont to repeat the following rhyme, apropos of this bell:

"John Daundeleon with his great dog
Brought over this bell on a mill cog."

Mr. G. P. Bevan, in his "Tourist's Guide to Kent," goes farther, and states that these lines were on the bell itself. Here are two cases of copying without verifying. It is a pity that compilers of books don't take a little more trouble to ascertain the correctness of the facts they detail.

The fact of the gift is perpetuated by "Dannddeleon" on the present tenor. No doubt, too, the lines are traditional, probably somewhat altered from their original form. "Cog" or "Cogue" is an old English term for a small vessel or boat.

Since writing the above I have consulted Lewis's History of "The Isle of Tenet," and I find that Brayley has in the main copied from him. Lewis, who wrote in 1723, is very severe on the fad for recasting which obtained in his day. He states that the church has "five very tunable ones, and by much the largest of any hereabouts; the other parishes having cast their old bells anew, and, to save charges, made candlesticks of them as to sound."

He also gives the inscriptions (incorrectly, however,) on the then treble and second as follows :

Treble. Thomas Hench made me
Second. Joceb hath made me 1615 T N R P.

My readers will have no difficulty in fathering these upon Thomas and Joseph Hatch, respectively.

MARGATE.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

I, 41-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1829

ST. PAUL, CLIFTONVILLE.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

MARK BEECH.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

Church about thirty-five years old; presumably one equally modern bell.

Death knell as soon as convenient. Tellers— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman. Bell tolled both before and after funerals.

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. R. S. Hunt.

MATFIELD.*Vide* BRENCHEY.

MEOPHAM.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

5 Bells.

- I., 31-in. I S R W ANTHOZY BARTLET MICHAEL DARBIE
MADE MEE 1650
- II., 32-in. ♣ ○ ○ ○ ○ ♣ IOHN ♠ AN ♠ CHRISTOPHER ♠ HODSON
♠ MAIDE ♠ ME ♠ 1677
♣ ○ ○ ○ ○ ♣ WILLIAM ♠ SWIFT ♠ FRANCIS ♠ BRIGHT
♠ C ♠ WARDENS ♣
- III., 34½-in. IOHN * AN * CHRISTOPHER * HODSON * MAIDE
* ME * 1677 ○ ○ ○
♣ WILLIAM * SWIFT * FRANCIS * BRIGHT * C *
WARDENS ○ ○ ○
- IV., 37-in. MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME 1651
W R
- V., 41-in. ♣ CHRISTOPHER * HODSON * MADE * ME * 1679
♣ ○ ○ ○ ○
WILLIAM * SWIFT * FRANCES * BRIGHT * CHVRCH
* WARDENS ♣ ○ ♣

Thorpe ("Registrum Roffense") states that "within the memory of several old men, now living at Meopham, some of the bells of the Church being to be new cast, and there being wanting a sufficient quantity of metal to do it, some persons (one of which is now living) tore off all the brass inscriptions from the stones in the Church (except that of Follham before-mentioned) and threw them into the melted metal to add to its quantity."

²¹ This would seem to apply to the recasting of Nos. 2 and 3 in 1677.

MEREWORTH.

ST. LAURENCE.

6 Bells.

- I., 28-in. GRATA SIT ARGUTA RESONANS CAMPANULA
VOCE ○ I: EAYRE FECIT 1746
- II., 29-in. Same motto. I: EAYRE S^r NEOTS 1746
+
- III., 31-in. IHS NAZARENUS REX IUDEORUM FILI DEI
MISERERE MEI J: EAYRE FECIT 1746
- IV., 34-in. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIA DEI J: EAYRE S^r
NEOTS FECIT ANNO DOM: 1746
- V., 34½-in. CÆLORUM CHRISTE PLACIT TIBI REX SONUS
ISTE: UTILE DULCI ○ ○ ○ ANNO DOM: 1746 ○ ○
- VI., 38½-in. DISCE MORI NOSTRO VIVERE DISCE SONO EARL
OF WESTMORELAND ANNO DOM: 1746

Death knell rung as soon as notice received, but not after sunset. Commence with tellers— 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female—always on tenor; then toll tenor for adults or 2nd bell for children, and repeat tellers at finish.

On day of funeral a knell is rung at 8 a.m., but without tellers, and the tenor is tolled before the service.

SUNDAYS.—Treble bell rung for a few minutes at 8 a.m. ("Matins" bell).

For services, bells rung or chimed.

Peals on Easter morning, Christmas Eve, and Whitsun Day (morning). On last night of year, a dumb peal before midnight and an open one after.

MERSHAM.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

8 Bells.

I., 25½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON

THE GIFT OF

THE REV^D R B KNATCHBULL HUGESSEN

RECTOR 1880

C BATES }
T BAKER } CHURCH WARDENS

II., 27-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON

THE GIFT OF

SIR WYNDHAM KNATCHBULL BART

1880

III., 29-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1847 THE
GIFT OF THE RT HON^{BLE} SIR EDWARD KNATCHBULL
BARTIV., 29-in. ~~ioseph~~ hatch made me 1612

V., 33-in. Same. ☉ 1612

VI., 34-in. Same.

VII., 38-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME ☉ 1612

VIII., 42-in. Same.

T. R. E. Item v great bells yn the stepell with ij corse bells.

No information as to passing bell.

Ringin on Easter Day, Christmas Eve and Day, Whitsun Day, and New Year's Eve; also on those Sundays when there is a mid-day celebration.

The recasting of the ring of five in 1612 would seem to have been done on the spot. In digging a grave a few years since in a corner of the churchyard, traces of a fire were found and a piece of (gutter) bell metal. This last was put into the melting pot when the two trebles were added in 1880.

Best thanks to the Rev. E. C. Lucey, Rector.

MILSTEAD.

ST. MARY AND HOLY CROSS.

3 Bells.

I., 25½-in. THE REVEREND W^M BATCHELLER D : D : RECTOR
R : PHELPS ME FECIT 1730

II., 27-in. ○ ○ ○

III., 31-in. ∩ (Fig. 25) ∩ (Fig. 25) ∩ (Fig. 27)

No. 2 has three coins only. It is difficult to place in point of date, but is certainly a pre-Reformation bell.

Tenor by Henry Jordan of London (see p. 44).

Death knell as soon as possible, but not after sunset. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 2 × 2 for female. On day of funeral, a knell at 8 a.m. Strike bell 200 times, then tellers as above, then toll for a time. Toll again half an hour before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Tenor rung at 8 o'clock, called "Summons" (? "Sermon") bell.

Bells chimed for service.

Ringing on New Year's Eve.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. H. Hilton.

MILTON BY CANTERBURY.

ST. NICHOLAS.

1 Bell.

I., 18-in. 1829

MILTON BY GRAVESEND.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

6 Bells.

I., 31-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1810
G RICH W COOK CHURCH WARDENS

II., 31-in. ♠ IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ MEE ‡ 1656 ‡ WILLIAM †
HVLL ‡

III., 32½-in. IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ MEE ♠ 1656 ‡ PETTER ♠
BROWNE ♠ WATERMAN ‡

IV., 34½-in. THOMAS ‡ MORRIS ‡ SMITH ‡ W ‡ H ‡ IOHN ‡ HOD-
SON ♠ MADE ♠ MEE ‡ 1656 ‡

V., 38-in. ‡ IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1656 ‡ IOHN ♠
SMITH ♠ DISSTILAR

VI., 42-in. ‡ IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1656 ♠ WILLIAM ♠
ANTROBVS ♠ IOHN ♠ HALL ♠ CHVRCH ‡ WARDNES
♠ IS ♠ TM ♠ PE ♠ MASARS ‡ ‡

A bell tolled at funerals.

Three bells chimed for Sunday services.

No ringers and consequently no ringing.

Thanks to Rev. W. D. Johnston, Rector.

In Cruden's "History of Gravesend" it is stated that in 1797 the then five bells had not been rung for many years, owing to the dilapidated condition of the frame. A new frame was made and the present treble added in 1810 at the expense of the parish. The inscriptions are given in the book, but, as usual, incorrectly.

MILTON BY GRAVESEND. CHRIST CHURCH. 1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

HOLY TRINITY. 1 Bell.

I., 25½-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH MILTON 1845
AD MAGNAM DEI GLORIAM

ST. ANDREW. 1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

MILTON BY SITTINGBOURNE. HOLY TRINITY. 5 Bells.

I., 29-in. O IAMES O BARTLET MADE O MEE 1681 Ⓢ
II., 30½-in. IAMES BARTLET MADE MEE 1681 Ⓢ
III., 32½-in. Same.
IV., 36-in. Same.
V., 40-in. IOHN O HVNT O THOMAS PACKMAN CHVRCH-
WARDENS 1681 Ⓢ

The whole ring in bad order, and tenor cracked by carelessness a few years ago.

MILTON BY SITTINGBOURNE. ST. PAUL.

There is no bell ; but the bell at the Market House, measuring 28½ inches, and inscribed :

2H ♦ RF ♦ CW ♦ IOHN ♦ WILNAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1631 ♦

is used to call to service, and for funerals and other parish purposes. It is, therefore, reckoned among the church bells.

It was formerly rung at market-time, and on *Shrove Tuesday*,* and every night at eight as curfew until the *cholera year*.

* "Pancake" Bell.

MINSTER IN SHEPPEY. SS. MARY AND SEXBURGA. 5 Bells.

- I., 29-in. GILLET & CO CROYDON RECAST 1883
 II., 31-in. *william hatch made me* 1663
 III., 33-in. Same. I P 1663
 IV., 36-in. WILLIAM HATCH MADE ME T D T M C W ☉ 1663
 V., 39½-in. Same. S S T D T M C W ☉ 1663

DEATH KNELL.—Tellers at beginning—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.
 Then toll for an hour.

Bell tolled at funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Bells chimed or rung for service; “ring in” on 4th bell.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Rev. W. Bramston, Vicar.

MINSTER IN THANET. ST. MARY. 5 Bells.

- I., 35-in. *iuseph hatch made me* ☉ 1636
 II., 37-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1626
 III., 39-in. WILLIAM AMBROSS IOHN GRAIT C W THOMAS
 PALMAR MADE MEE 1660
 IV., 42-in. **HOLY * MARE * PRAY * FOR**
 * VS O (Fig. 36) □
 V., 46½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1636

No. 4 is a very interesting bell by William Oldfeild, of Canterbury. (See p. 57.) The stop upon it is Fig. 35.

The curfew is rung (on tenor) at 8 p.m. during the winter months, the day of the month being rung on the treble bell.

No information as to passing bell.

SUNDAYS.—Bells chimed for service, except on the great festivals and Harvest Thanksgiving Day, when they are rung.

Ring on New Year's Eve.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. A. H. Sitwell.

MOLASH. ST. PETER. 1, formerly 3 Bells.

- I., 34-in. *iuseph hatch made me* ☉ 1608
 T. R. E. Item in the stepull iij bells.
 Item on hand bell.
 Stolen, on other lytell bell.

Mr. Faussett has preserved for us the inscriptions on the two missing bells ; they were Nos. I. and III. in the ring.

- I. Sancte Martine Ora Pro Nobis
 III. Joseph Hatch made me 1622

MONGEHAM (GREAT). ST. MARTIN. 5 Bells.

- I., 27½-in. BY SUBSCRIPTION 1787 W & T MEARS LATE LESTER PACK
 & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
 II., 29½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1876
 III., 31-in. RICH^d WOOD CH WARDEN W & T MEARS LATE LESTER PACK
 & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1787
 IV., 33½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1876
 V., 36-in. G MEARS & C^o FOUNDERS LONDON 1862

In 1758 there were only four bells.

Death knell rung immediately notice is received. Tellers at *end* of tolling— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman, 3×1 for child.

On day of funeral at 7 a.m. the bell is tolled for about half an hour—"three times together for a man, twice for a woman, and once for a child." Before funeral, tenor bell tolled for an hour, minute strokes.

SUNDAYS.—Tenor bell rung at 9 a.m. ("Mass" bell) and at 1 p.m. Bells rung for services.

On Easter Day and Christmas Day peals at 7 a.m., and in the evening of the last night of year.

Bell rung for vestry meetings.

Peals on loyal and other secular anniversaries have been discontinued for more than twenty years.

A dumb peal is rung on the death of the Archbishop or of a member of the royal family.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. J. B. Harrison.

MONK'S HORTON. ST. PETER. 3 Bells.

- I., 13-in. ave pater rex creator
 anno christi mdccclvii
 II., 21-in. AVE: FID: DUX: SALVATOR
 ANNO CHRISTI
 MDCCCLVII
 C^t G MEARS LONDON

III., 23-in. + AVE : SANCTI : TRINITAS
ANNO CHRISTI
MDCCCLVII
ET G MEARS LONDINI

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steeple.

In 1758, Mr. Faussett notes here "four bells, three of which were made by John Wilnar, 1631, the 4th by Joseph Hatch, 1618."

These probably remained until the year 1847, when the wooden tower in which they hung was pulled down, and the four heavy bells sold for funds to restore the church. The present three hang in three arches in western gable, and were inaccessible at the time of my visit for want of a ladder. Mr. George Finn, of Brabourne, however, has taken a good deal of trouble to get the inscriptions for me, for which I owe him many thanks. They are in modern-antique lettering.

MONKTON.

ST. MARY.

3, formerly 4 Bells.

I., 28-in. ioseph hatch made me M P C W 1633

II., 29½-in. H P I P T P 1661

III., 33-in. ioseph hatch made me 1615

The former 4th (tenor) was inscribed :

T P MADE ME 1661 W W
T R CW

Passing bell rung as soon as possible after death. Tellers (abnormal)—for man 3 × 3, for woman 3-2-3, for child 2-2-2.

Bell tolled before funerals.

SUNDAYS.—One bell rung for ten minutes at 10 a.m., three bells chimed at 10.30, then "ring in" on single bell at 10.45.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

The earliest entry in the parish records connected with the bells is in 1728.

October 11. Paid y^e Ringers at y^e King's Cronation 2s. 6d.
Best thanks to the Rev. R. L. Allnutt, Vicar.

MOTTINGHAM.

ST. ANDREW.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

MURSTON.

ALL SAINTS.

2, formerly 3 Bells.

I., 25½-in. + □ + ihr
 II., 33-in. IOHN CRVX CHVRCHWARDEN 1673 ☸

The larger bell came from the Church of Leysdown. It is cracked and unused ; the other bell—for account of which see p. 59—is only used to ring to service, and occasionally for the passing bell. It is by William Oldfeild, of Canterbury.

Thanks to the Rev. A. Freeman, Rector.

MYDLEY.

NO CHURCH.

In 1552. Item ij smale bells to ryng to servyce.
 iij sacryng bells.

NACKINGTON.

ST. MARV.

1 Bell.

I., 28-in. IOHN TADHVITER C W S K 1724

No change here since 1758, except that the belfry floor is probably much more rotten. To any campanist desirous of inspecting this bell I would give Punch's advice—"Don't."

NETTLESTEAD.

ST. MARY.

4 Bells.

I., 25-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON
 TO THE GLORY OF GOD
 THE GIFT OF FRIENDS

1885

II., 27½-in. P W 1700
 III., 28½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1885
 TO THE GLORY OF GOD
 THE GIFT OF MARY ALLEN

IV., 33-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1838

The 2nd bell is by Philip Wightman, of London, as *was* also the 3rd before its recasting.

NEWCHURCH.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

5 Bells.

I., 29¼-in. r & n mears founders london
 o praise ye the Lord for it is good to sing praisis to
 our God for it is pleasant and praisis is comely.
 S S peter and paul newchurch recast mdcxcv

- II., 31-in. IOHN † WILNAR † 1637
 III., 33½-in. IOHN † WILNAR † MADE † ME † 1637
 IV., 37-in. IOHN † WILNAR † 1637
 V., 41-in. Same.

T. R. E. Item iiij bells in the steeple.

Mem: Sold . . . ij little sacryng bells.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Tellers at beginning—3 × 3 for male, 2 × 3 for female.

Bell tolled at funerals. Occasionally a muffled peal for an old ringer.

SUNDAYS.—Third bell rung at 8 a.m. ("Matins" bell) and at noon. For services: Bells chimed half an hour, "toll in" on one bell ten minutes.

Peals on Christmas Day and New Year's Eve; also on Queen's Birthday and Coronation Day, and on 5th November.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. W. Cobb.

NEWENDEN.

ST. PETER.

1 Bell.

I., 20-in. G. MEARS FOUNDER LONDON

GIVE THANKS 1860 SING PRAISES 1860

In 1701 the church appears, from the following, to have come considerably to grief:

"24th April, 1701. Received for the fees of a Faculty to take down the ruins selling two of y^e bells and removing the rubbish of the Parish Church of Newenden—with the fiat for the passing of y^e Faculty at Lambeth in all £5 17s. 4d. being passed at the Vicar General Office.

"C. A. Lukin."

And the following entry in the churchwardens' accounts for that year:

Paid for an order to take down y^e ruins of y^e

Chancel & Steeple and repairing y^e Body of

y^e Church £5 17s. 4d.

Received for y^e Bells £27 10s. 0d.

Apparently no local uses.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. W. R. Greenhill.

NEWINGTON BY HYTHE.

ST. NICHOLAS.

5 Bells.

I., 27-in. SAM^L KNIGHT ○ ○ FECIT ○ ○ 1725 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

II., 30-in. SAM^L ○ ○ KNIGHT ○ ○ FECIT ○ ○ 1725

- III., 31-in. HENRY BILTON ○ CVRET ○ ○ S K ○ FECIT
1725 ○
IV., 33½-in. WILLIAM ○ SLODDEN ○ THOMAS ○ TAYLOR CH.
WARDENS ○ S K FECIT ○ 1725 ○
V., 38-in. JAMES BROCKMAN ESQ^R ○ SAM^L KNIGHT FECIT
1725 ○ ○

T. R. E. First iiij bells in the stepell wherof wee doo owe to the bel-founder for showing* of one of the same bells xxvjs. viij^d.

Death knell rung as soon as possible, but not at night. Tellers—3 × 3 for a man, 2 × 2 for a woman—then toll for about an hour.

Bell tolled before funeral and when proceeding to grave. Peal for ringer deceased.

SUNDAYS.—A bell tolled for a few minutes at 9 a.m. ("Mass" bell). Bells rung or chimed for services. No ringing in Lent.

Peals on Easter morning and New Year's Eve.

Sometimes a bell for vestry.

Best thanks to the Rev. L. Buckwell, Vicar.

NEWINGTON BY SITTINGBOURNE. ST. MARY. 6 Bells.

- I., 27½-in. JOHN FOWLE & RICH^D SEARS CHURCH WARDENS PACK &
CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1774
II., 29½-in. IOHN WILNAR ◇ 1622 MD RL HB IM WK ID WR
RB WB CW
III., 32½-in. Blank.
IV., 36-in. IOHN WILNAR ◇ 1622
V., 39-in. IOHN ◇ WILNAR 1622
VI., 42½-in. IOHN WILNAR ◇ MADE ◇ ME 1622

DEATH KNELL.—Tenor for adults, a small one for a child. Tellers—3 × 3 for a male, 3 × 2 for a female. On day of burial, bell tolled for half an hour in the early morning, and again for the same period before the funeral.

SUNDAY SERVICES.—Bells chimed, ten minutes tolling on tenor, and "toll in" on small bell for last five minutes.

The bells are in bad order, and consequently there has been no ringing for the last twenty years or more. They would appear to be "clocked," *i.e.*, small ropes are attached to the clappers for lazy-pulling. This is a reprehensible practice, and very harmful to the bells.

* Casting.

Local tradition affirms his Satanic Majesty to have been very much about when the church was being built. Among other tricks, he is reported to have carried off one of the bells and dropped it in a round pool of water, which still exists in a boggy hollow hard by.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. G. R. Baker, who supplies the above information, but does not vouch for the truth of the last paragraph.

NEWNHAM.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

4 Bells.

I., 24-in. Blank.

II., 27½-in. Blank.

III., 30½-in. THO^S WANSTALL & THO^S ELVY CHURCH WARDENS PACK &
CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1772

IV., 33½-in. + (Fig. 1)       Ad Cæli Syna Perducatur Nos Katerina

+ ∇ (Fig. 22)

For mention of tenor bell, see p. 39.

Church restored about twenty years since, and cages for two additional bells provided, which, however, have remained unfilled for lack of funds.

Death knell rung as soon as practicable. Bell tolled for about twenty minutes, and finish with tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.

On day of burial, a bell tolled at 8 a.m., and again for half an hour before the funeral.

On Sundays, and all days when there is to be Divine Service, a bell is tolled for a short time at 8.30 a.m. For services: Bells chimed twenty minutes, and then "toll in" on single bell for ten minutes.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. P. Kingsford.

NONINGTON.

ST. MARY.

3 Bells.

I., 32½-in. J WARNER & SONS CRESCENT FOUNDRY LON-
DON 1854

II., 34-in. ✠ (Fig. 5) Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis
+ (Fig. 1)

III., 37-in. ♣ IOHN * HODSON * ME * FECIT * 1683 * IAMES
* NASH * AND * ROBERT * PAYNE * C * WAR-
DENS

The present treble is apparently a substitute for a discarded tenor. In 1758, Mr. Faussett notes here "3 Heavy bells," Nos. 1 and 2 of which are identical with the present 2 and 3, while No. 3 was inscribed :

Josephus Hatch me fecit 1621.

See p. 34 for mention of No. 2. The initial cross is Fig. 5. I am doubtful about the other, but *think* it is No. 1.

NORTHBOURNE.

ST. AUGUSTINE.

5 Bells.

- I., 25-in. ROBERT CALLAWAY VICAR MATH BAGLEY FECIT
1711
- II., 27½-in. VALLENTINE HOYLE MATHEW BAGLEY FECIT 1711
- III., 30½-in. DANLL GOLDER IOHN WHYBORNE M B 1711
- IV., 33-in. MATH BAGLEY OF LONDON CAST THESE FIVE BELLS 1711
- V., 36-in. S^R RICH SANDS CHVRCH WARDEN ROB NETHERSOLE M B
FECIT 1711

Passing bell rung as soon as death is known. Tellers—3 strokes for a man,
2 for a woman. Bell tolled at funerals.

Bell chimed for Sunday services, then "toll in."

Ringin on Christmas Eve and Day, and New Year's Eve.

Thanks to Rector, the Rev. T. Wood.

NORTHFLEET.

ST. BOTOLPH.

6 Bells.

- I., 30-in. LESTER AND PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1758
- II., 32-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1817
- III., 34½-in. LESTER & PACK FECIT 1757
- IV., 37-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT H J PITCHER R SNOWDEN
CHURCH WARDENS 1817
- V., 39½-in. THO^S LESTER & THO^S PACK OF LONDON MADE
THESE SIX BELLS 1758
- VI., 43½-in. G. MEARS & CO FOUNDERS LONDON 1864
FREDERICK SOUTHGATE VICAR
GEORGE T RICHMOND } CHURCHWARDENS.
WILLIAM SPENCER }

According to Thorpe's "Registrum Roffense," a new bell frame was made and the bells relung in 1718.

NORTON.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I., 22½-in. Blank.

Apparently no local customs.

NURSTED.

ST. MILDRED.

1 Bell.

I., 27¾-in. Blank.

The Rector "has no information to give." For which, many thanks.

OARE.

ST. PETER.

1, formerly 3 Bells.

I., 22¼-in. Blank.

Death knell rung at noon or 8 o'clock following morning. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 2 × 2 for female. Then bell tolled fifteen minutes.

On day of burial, bell tolled at 8 a.m. for fifteen minutes, and again for half an hour before the funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Bell rung for half an hour for service.

Very hearty thanks to Mrs. Woolrych, who, in the Vicar's regrettable illness, has kindly spared time to reply to my paper of queries.

OFFHAM.

ST. MICHAEL.

3 Bells.

I., 25½-in. ♣ BY ♣ ME ♣ GYLES ♣ REVE ♣ BELFOVNDER ♣
1590

II., 30-in. ♣ IOHN * HODSON * MADE * ME * 1674 * O C H
O O O ♣ ROBERT * LVRINDEN * CHVRCH *
WARDEN O O ♣

III., 33½-in. IOHN † WILNAR † MADE † ME † 1633

Death knell rung. Tellers—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman, 3 × 1 for child.

SUNDAYS.—Tenor bell rung at 8 a.m., called "Warning" bell. For services, bells chimed fifteen minutes, then tenor for same space of time.

The following entries in the churchwardens' accounts have reference to the recasting of the 2nd bell in 1674 :

				£	s.	d.
for casting the bell	...	...	...	06	05	00
for hanging the bell	...	...	...	00	10	00
for the stocke	...	...	...	00	02	10
charges about the bell	...	...	...	00	16	00
for carriage of the bell	...	...	...	01	02	00
to Brooker for his work*	...	...	...	00	04	00

* No doubt for trussing the bell. Brooker was the village smith.

In the year 1664, the sum of £3 10s. had been spent "for Repayre of the Bells."

Best thanks to the Rev. H. F. Rivers.

ORLESTONE. ST. MARY THE VIRGIN. 3 Bells.

I., 27-in. IOHN & WILMAR & 1631 &

II., 28-in. I & W & 1635

III., 30-in. BI·ME·IOHN COLE BELFOVNDER AN·NO·DO·MI·NI·
1591

T. R. E. First iij bells in the steeple.

Thomas Stokke, of Orleston, by his will, proved 1525, bequeathed: to the repaicion of the steeple of Orleston, vs.

No local uses. Thanks to E. Ward Oliver, Esq.

ORPINGTON. ALL SAINTS. 1 Bell.

I., 29-in. JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1813

T. R. E. Item iiij greate bells suted of brasse in the steeple and one saints bell of brasse.

Steeple was struck by lightning and burnt down about fifty years ago. Local tradition says a peal of bells was then carried to St. Mary Cray. This is partially correct; there were only two bells here in Hasted's time, and they probably went to, but did not stop at, St. Mary Cray; they doubtless went on to London and were sold to raise funds for the repairs, the present single bell taking their place.

Apparently no local uses. Thanks to Vicar, Rev. J. N. Heale.

OSPRINGE. SS. PETER AND PAUL. 1 Bell.

I., 36-in. IOHN WHITE VICAR EDWARD TOKER FRANCIS HOPE CHURCH
WARDENS ROBERT CATLIN FEC^T 1741

Weever ("Funerall Monuments," p. 278), writing about 1630, states that the inscription on the then bell was

Hac in conclaue Gabriele tu pange suaue.

He doubtless blundered in copying. See the 5th bell at Southfleet for the correct inscription. It would almost seem, from the way he writes, that Ospringe had then, as now, only one bell.

Hasted states that there were four bells here in his time (1790-1800), but I think he must be wrong. The parish books record the sale of the other bells (probably three) "in the last century," apparently "without authority."

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Begin with tellers— 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female; then toll bell, and finish with tellers again. This is repeated at an early hour on the day of funeral. Bells used on Sunday for services only. A few warning strokes half an hour before service, and ring for last fifteen minutes.

Best thanks to the Rev. W. N. Griffin, Vicar.

OTFORD.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW.

2 Bells.

- I., 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. THOMAS BARTLET MADE ME 1622 ☸
 II., 39 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. ♣ O IH ♢ MADE ♢ ME ♣ THIS ♢ BELL ♢ WAS ♢ GIVEN ♢
 BY ♢ ELIZABETH ♢ POLHILL ♢ & ♣ HEARE ♢ PLACED
 E
 ♢ AGVST ♢ Y ♢ 7 ♢ 1674 ♢ AGED ♢ 60 ♢ YEARES * O O O
 C H O O O O

No. I cracked and useless.

The bell is tolled at funerals.

Used on Sundays for service only.

Rung on New Year's Eve.

Elizabeth Polhill, the donor of the larger bell, was widow of David Polhill, who gave the communion plate in 1666. The family were landowners here for several centuries.

Best thanks to the Rev. J. Hunt, Vicar.

OTHAM.

ST. NICHOLAS.

3 Bells.

- I., 30-in. LESTER & PACK FECIT 1755
 II., 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. + Iohannes O Cristi O Clare O Dignare O Pro
 O Nobis Ocare
 III., 35-in. W: KEEBLE I: GROOMBRIDGE CH: W: W: SIMMONDS A: M:
 RECT: T: TAYLOR CURATE R: PHELPS MADE ME 1714

Middle bell by William Dawe, better known as William Pfounder, of London. See p. 26. Initial cross is Fig. 9; stop, Fig. 8.

Passing bell rung an hour after death, if it occurs between sunrise and sunset. Begin with tellers— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman, 3×1 for child;

then toll for about half an hour, and finish with tellers every five minutes for a quarter of an hour.

On day of funeral bell tolled for half an hour at 8 a.m., and again for the same period before the service.

SUNDAYS.—Used for services only ; chime fifteen minutes, toll tenor for ten minutes, then toll treble ("Parson's" bell) for last five.

Very many thanks to Rector, the Rev. F. M. Millard, for above information ; and also for permission to make the following extracts from the churchwardens' accounts, which are extant from 1664, with an unfortunate hiatus from 1689 to 1716 inclusive :

1665	p ^d for a Bathrick for one of the bells	1s.	4d.
1666	p ^d for 2 Bellropes to Tilden	8s.	3d.
1667	paid for a bell rope to (<i>sic</i>)	4s.	0d.
	paid to Jason Day for three new bell whelles and a new stock for the tennor and mending of the frame	4 <i>li.</i>	0s. 0d.
	paid to William Grombridge for Iron worke the som of	16s.	0d.
	paid to M ^r Fetten for six new brasses the some of	1 <i>li.</i>	9s. 6d.
1671	It. for 2 badreckes	5s.	0d.
	It. for a stay for a whele	0s.	6d.
	It. for a sete of bellropes	10s.	6d.
1672	It. for oyorns* to the belles waid 18 ^{lb} & a quarter	6s.	1d.
	It. for mending the claper of the great bell ...	1s.	0d.
	It. for Eyorens* for to belles waid 34 ^{lb} ...	11s.	4d.
	It. paide to the Carpenter for hainge (<i>sic</i>) the Belles... ..	18s.	0d.
	It. for timber for the frame	2s.	0d.
1681	Item paid for a set of bellropes	9s.	0d.
	Item for mending of the Claper	4s.	0d.
1682	It. to the Battrex of the bel	1s.	0d.
1683	It. for 3 bathrikes for y ^e bells	6s.	0d.
1686	p ^d ffor a bartricke ffor a bell	1s.	4d.
	p ^d ffor a bell Rope ffor one bell	3s.	0d.

* Qy. irons (trusses).

1687-8	paid for 2 bawcks	...	...	...	...	4s.	0d.
1717	paid for bellropess	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
1721	p ^d the Ringers Nov. y ^e 5 th	...	...	...	...	2s.	6d.
	(Similar entry in nearly every succeeding year.)						
	p ^d John Willes for mending the wheels and other work	...	...	...	...	15s.	0d.
1722	paye ^d the Ringers Crouwnation	...	...	...	...	2s.	6d.
1723	Three payments for ringing, 2s. 6d. each.						
	paid for new bell rops	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
	paid for mending of the bel Claper an for hock an Climbers*	...	...	...	...	5s.	6d.
1724	Three payments to Ringers of 2s. 6d. each : Aug. 18, Oct. 20, and Nov. 5.						
1726	p ^d Edward Beeson for gobbs† for the bells	...	...	...	...	0s.	6d.
	p ^d for a seet of bellrops	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
1727—Oct. 11	p ^d the Ringars att the Crownacion	...	...	...	...	5s.	0d.
1728-1732	Payments for ringing only.						
1733	p ^d Reader for Bellrops...	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
1739	p ^d for Bell Ropes	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
1741	p ^d Tho Betts For Mending The Bell	...	...	...	1 <i>li.</i>	16s.	6d.
	p ^d Jn ^o Wiles for Mending the Bell (etc.)	...	...	...	1 <i>li.</i>	9s.	6d.
	Spent at hanging the Bell and For Oyle	...	...	...	...	1s.	6d.
1743	p ^d fof (<i>sic</i>) bell ropes	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
1744	p ^d Tho ^s Betts for mending the bell	...	...	...	...	8s.	0d.
1745	p ^d for belrops	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
1747	Oyle for y ^e Bells	...	...	...	...	0s.	6d.
1748	p ^d William Eagles for new Bellropes	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
1749	Spent on y ^e wringers	...	...	...	...	7s.	6d.
1753	p ^d for new Bellrops	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
1754	p ^d for Bellrops	...	...	...	...	9s.	0d.
	p ^d for a New Bell	...	...	...	...	10 <i>li.</i>	19s.
	for caring the Bell to Maidstone and home again	...	...	...	...	5s.	0d.
	M ^{rs} Bensted for caring the Bell to London	...	...	...	...	6s.	0d.

* Qy., for a hook and something not identifiable.

† Qy., for "jobs about" the bells.

1757	p ^d to Geting y ^e Bell up & other Expences	...	2s.	0d.
1758	for new belropes	... ..	9s.	0d.
1761	p ^d for Bell Ropes	... ..	10s.	6d.
1762	Oyle for y ^e Bells	... ..	1s.	0d.
1763	p ^d for Bell ropes	... ..	10s.	6d.

OTTERDEN. ST. LAURENCE. 1 Bell.

I., 24-in. I H

By Joseph Hatch.

PADDLESWORTH. ST. OSWALD. 1 Bell.

I., 24-in. J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1859 R MARCH C W

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple.

In 1758, "a small crack't Bell," apparently inscribed, but inaccessible for want of a ladder.

PADDOCK WOOD. ST. ANDREW. 1 Bell.

One small modern bell.

PATRICKSBOURNE. ST. MARY. 3 Bells.

I., 26½-in. THOMAS PALMAR MADE 1664 CHRISTOPHER
(rest illegible)

II., 29-in. + AVE : MARIA : GRACIA :
PLENA

III., 30-in. T P C S

For mention of No. 2, see p. 11.

Nos. 1 and 3 are clearly by the same founder; the lettering on the Palmers' bells is never particularly good. The parish registers contain a note of the recasting, and mention the weights, 329 and 333 Q respectively,* which I do not understand. Judging from the diameters, they weigh about four and five hundredweight respectively.

The 1st shield on No. 2 is Fig. 2, the other Fig. 3. For lettering and cross, see Plate I.

* "Arch. Cant.," xiv. 171.

PECKHAM (EAST).

ST. MICHAEL.

6 Bells.

- I., 30-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1825
 JOHN BIGGENDEN }
 WILLIAM ALLEN } CHURCH WARDENS
- II., 32½-in. W^M MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1785 MESS^{RS} J^N° BIGGENDEN
 & THO^S PATTENDEN CH. WARDENS
- III., 35-in. Same.
- IV., 36-in. PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH R C FECIT 1747
- V., 39-in. ROBERT CATLIN CAST AND HUNG US ALL 1747
- VI., 43-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1812
 EDW^D MONCKTON }
 JOHN JEFFERY } C^H WARDENS

Passing bell rung directly after death. Tellers—3 strokes for male, 2 for female. Tolling at funeral.

SUNDAYS.—For services bells chimed, tenor tolled, “toll in” on treble.

Ring on New Year’s Eve.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. H. R. Merewether.

HOLY TRINITY.

2 Bells.

Two small modern bells ; probably from the Whitechapel Foundry.

Passing bell rung on larger bell for adults, smaller for children. Tellers—3 × 3 for males, 3 × 2 for females.

On day of burial a few strokes at 8 a.m. on breaking ground, and bell tolled for fifteen minutes before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—A short peal at 8 a.m. (this cannot be a survival). For services bells rung till ten minutes before, then ring in on treble.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. J. C. Whish.

PECKHAM (WEST).

ST. DUNSTAN.

3 Bells.

- I., 26½-in. ioseph hatched made me 1624
- II., 29-in. ○ CHRISTOPHER ○ HODSON ○ MADE ○ ME ○ 1685
 ○ ○ ○
- III., 31½-in. STEPHANVS † SWAN † † ME † FECIT † ANNO † DOMINI
 □ (Royal Arms) † (Pr. of Wales’ feathers)
 † 1611

DEATH KNELL.—Tenor for adults, treble for children. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female ; then minute strokes.

Bell tolled before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—A bell tolled at 8 a.m. ("Matins" bell). Bells chimed for services.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. R. Swan.

PEMBURY.

ST. PETER.

3 Bells.

I., 27½-in. ○ ○

II., 29-in. ♣ IOHN ♢ & ♢ CHRISTOPHER ♢ HODSON ♢ MADE ♣
ME ♢ 1677 ♣ ○ ○ ○

♣ IOHN ♢ & ♢ THOMAS ♢ GIBENS ♢ CHVRCH ♢ WAR-
DENS ♣ ○ ○ ○

III., 32-in. IOHN ♢ WILNAR ♢ MADE ♢ ME ♢ 1620

Two of these are cracked, the treble and one other.

Apparently no local uses.

PENSHURST.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

6 Bells.

I., 33½-in. GILBERTVS SPENCER IVN : GEN : ME DEDIT : R : PHELPS FECIT
1701

II., 35-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1802

III., 36-in. + Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum + ∇

IV., 41-in. + In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis
+ ∇

V., 45-in. MICHAEL SAXBY RICHARD WOODHAMS CHURCHWARDENS
THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1802

VI., 47½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT 1619

Nos. 3 and 4 are by the same founder, see p. 39. The foundry-stamp is Fig. 22. The initial cross on No. 3 is Fig. 23 ; the other is *like* Fig. 9, but not quite identical. Initial cross on No. 4 is Fig. 1 ; the other is that formerly used by Stephen Norton, and engraved on Plate II.

PERRY STREET.

ALL SAINTS.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

PETHAM.

ALL SAINTS.

6 Bells.

- I., 25½-in. GEORGIUS III REX LESTER & PACK OF LONDON
FECIT 1760
II., 27-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1760
III., 28½-in. Same.
IV., 30-in. Same. THO^S HALKE
V., 32-in. Same. IOHN POTTER BELLHANGER
VI., 34-in. BRYAN FOSSETT CURATE W^M FOORD CH: WAR-
DEN 1760 LESTER & PACK FECIT

Before 1760 there were only three Bells, inscribed :

- I. Richard Phelps fecit me 1706 Thomas Halke C W
II. Josephus Hatch Feset 1617
III. Vocor Campana Iohannis

In 1760 the tower, which was low and much decayed, was taken down half-way and rebuilt, and the present light ring of six substituted for the former (probably heavy) three. The weights of the six are thus given by Mr. Faussett :

	Cwt.	qr.	lb.
I.	3	3	1
II.	4	1	6
III.	4	2	16
IV.	4	3	11
V.	5	3	2
VI.	6	3	6

PLAISTOW.

Vide BROMLEY.

PLATT.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

- I., 30-in. THOMAS MEARS LONDON 1843

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female ; then toll for half an hour.

Bell tolled for half an hour before funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Bell rung at 8 a.m. (Reminiscence of “Matins Bell,” not a survival, as the church only dates from 1843.) Rung for half an hour before services.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. F. T. Gregory.

PLAXTOL.

DEDICATION UNKNOWN.

1 Bell.

I., 21½-in. IOHN : STEEPHENS : CHVRCH : WARDEN : WIL :
FVRNER : 1709

Apparently no local uses. The Rector has kindly searched the parochial records for information as to William Furner, whose name appears on the bell, but without success. His name, however, appears nowhere else, and so we may probably conclude he was not a bell-founder. He was more likely the donor.

Thanks to the Rev. J. Tate.

PLUCKLEY.

ST. MICHAEL.

6 Bells.

I., 31-in.	{	C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON
II., 33-in.		RESTORED JUNE 1853
III., 35-in.		BY SUBSCRIPTION AND RATE
IV., 37-in.		SIR EDWARD C DERING BART M P
V., 40½-in.		REV ^d ASHTON OXENDEN RECTOR
VI., 44½-in.		JESSE SPICER } CHURCH WARDENS JESSE SPICER }

T. R. E. Item v bells in the steeple with a sauncts bell.

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Tolloed for a quarter of an hour—tenor for adults, small bell for children.

On day of burial, tenor tolloed for a quarter of an hour before funeral, and again when corpse is carried from church to grave.

Sunday use not stated.

Ringin on New Year's Eve. Not on 5th November (happily).

A bell for Easter Vestry.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. E. J. Selwyn.

PLUMSTEAD.

ST. NICHOLAS.

4 Bells.

I., 27¼-in. ○ CHRISTOPHER ○ HODSON ○ MADE ○ ME ○ 1686
○ ○ ○ ○ ○
○ IOHN ○ EVERITT ○ THOMAS ○ FITCH ○ CHVRCH
○ WARDENS ○

II., 29¼-in. Same.

III., 31½-in. Same.

IV., 36-in. THO^s MEARS LATE LESTER PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
FECIT 1790

T. R. E. Item iij bells of bell mettell suted hanging in the steeple there.

PLUMSTEAD.

ST. JAMES.

1 Bell.

Presumably one bell of the date 1878.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

1 Bell.

Church built 1884 ; probably one bell of that date.

ST. MARGARET.

1 Bell.

I., 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. **Mears Founder London**

ALL SAINTS (SHOOTER'S HILL).

1 Bell.

Church built 1875 ; presumably one bell of that date.

POSTLING.

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

3 Bells.

I., 32-in. **ioſeph hatch made me 1623**



II., 35-in. + **SANCTE : PETRE : ORA : PRO
: NOBIS**



III., 38-in. + **SANCTA : MARIA : ORA
PRO : NOBIS**

For mention of Nos. 2 and 3, see p. 11. The shields are Figs. 2 and 3.

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steeple with one hand bell.

Stolen . . . one hand bell.

PRESTON BY FAVERSHAM. ST. KATHARINE.

3 Bells.

I., 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. **J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1853**

II., 22-in. **LOVE × GOD × 1575 ×**

III., 25-in. **G : SYKES T : SMITH CHURCH WARDES**

1725

No. 2 has a curious "stop"—an open hand—between the words. See p. 60.

Passing bell rung directly notice is received. Tenor bell tolled, and tellers at end of knell—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.

This is repeated exactly at 7 a.m. on day of funeral ; and the tenor is again tolled for about twenty minutes before the service.

For service on Sundays and weekdays, the bells are chimed for fifteen

minutes, and then the tenor is tolled for a similar space of time. When there is to be a sermon, the tenor bell is raised previous to the chiming.

Best thanks to the Rev. J. Russell Cooke, Vicar.

PRESTON BY WINGHAM. ST. MICHAEL. 5 Bells.

I., 27½-in. ROBERT WYBORNE GENT : BENEFACTOR R :
PHELPS FEC: 1712

II., 29½-in. RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1712

III., 31-in. Same.

IV., 34-in. Same.

V., 37½-in. M^R: IOHN HARRISON WILLIAM LVCKIT CHVRCH-
WARDENS RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1712

Passing bell rung as soon after death as possible. Tenor for old, 2nd bell for young people. Tellers—three strokes for males, two for females.

Bell tolled before funerals.

SERVICE USES.—For daily matins, tenor first tolled, then treble ; then the day of the month is tolled on the 2nd bell.

SUNDAYS.—Bells chimed, then tenor tolled until the last two minutes, then treble for one and a half minutes ; finally, day of month on 2nd bell.

No ringing or chiming in Lent. On Good Friday the “funeral knell” is used before all services.

Peals on all the great festivals, and on their eves.

No ringing (happily) on 5th November.

Prior to 1712 there were only four bells. These were sent to London and recast into the present ring of five, at a cost of £51 8s. 0d. The carpenter's work for altering the frame was £15 10s. 0d. At this period, and for some years both before and after, new bell ropes seem to have been bought every year. Bell ropes in those days (and, indeed, very much later) were the churchwardens' perquisites, being useful for plough traces ; and it was needful to secure them before they were too much worn. Many other places in Kent tell the same story.

Very hearty thanks to the Vicar, the Right Rev. Bishop Jenner.

QUEENBOROUGH. HOLY TRINITY. 5 Bells.

I., 24-in. ANTHONY BARTLET MADE MEE 1667 ☸

II., 25½-in. Same.

III., 27½-in. Same.

- IV., 29-in. Same.
 V., 32-in. THE WORSHIPFUL ROBT: EVANS ESQ: MAIOR
 IAMES ONGLEY CH: WARDEN R: PHELPS MADE
 ME 1722

The tenor is broken and useless.

- RAINHAM.** ST. MARGARET. 6 Bells.
- I., 33-in. ○ CHRISTOPHER ○ HODSON ○ MADE ○ ME ○ 1685
 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
 ○ IOHN ○ TAYLAR ○ THOMAS ○ OSBONE ○ DONARS
 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
- II., 34½-in. ROBERTVS ♣ MOT ♣ ME ♣
 FECIT × 1601 ☉
- III., 36-in. ROBERTVS ♣ MOT ♣ ME
 FECIT ♣ 1601 ☉
- IV., 40½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1618
- V., 45½-in. WM TUCK & LUKE MILES CHURCH WARDENS
 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1773
- VI., 49-in. Robert + mot + made + me + 1582 + + × + +

Here are some old churchwardens' accounts, to which, unfortunately, I have been unable to get access. They appear to comprise the years 1517-19, and 1565-69 inclusive. From the account of them which appeared in Vol. XV. of "Arch. Cant.," I have extracted the following entries relative to the bells; but I do not know whether they are all which the accounts contain:

Payments.	Itm. payde to John Bungay for a key for the stepull		
1517-19	dore	vs.	iiij <i>℥</i> .
	It. payd to Jacobbe of maydston for a bell clapur	xijs.	ix <i>℥</i> .
	It. payd to John hurton for hangyng of the gret bell and stokkyng	iijs.	
	It. for strykyng downe of the same bell	iijs.	
	It. payd to John hurton for makyng of the stepull wyndowe and for trussyng of the iiij th bell ...	ijs.	
	Itm. payd for mendyng of the baudryks		xiiij <i>℥</i> .
	Itm. payd to Bungay for the lytyll bell clapur and other werks done in the churche	vijs.	iiij <i>℥</i> .

	Itm. payd to John hurton for takyng down of the gret bell	iijs.	
	Itm. payd to Sylke for makyng of bell ropys ...		xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for Sawyng of borde for the Stepull wyndowe... ..		v <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for tukkyng gyrdylls		ij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for borde that the lath was made of ...		xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd to John Alen and hys man for fyve days werkyng on the florys of the Stepull	ijs.	x <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd to harry Joyner for iiij days werkyng in the same werke		xv <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for ther mete and drynke to boun gay... ..	iijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd to John hurton for makyng of iij wyndowys to the Stepull	vijs.	
	Itm. payd to Coklett for reparacon of the bells ...	xiijs.	
	Itm. payd to Webbe for makyng of ij bell ropys...		xij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for ij bell ropys... ..		ix <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd for ij bawdryks		xj <i>d.</i>
	Itm. for mending of the ij grett bellys to Cokklett	xs.	
	Itm. payd to a Smyth of london for a bell clapur	xijs.	ix <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payd to Bungay for vj Sterroppys for iij wyndowys of the Stepull and for the lytyll bell clapur	vs.	
1565-66	Ffirst payed to a Carpenter for hangynge of the bells	ijs.	viiij <i>d.</i>
	Itm. payed to Raynold terenden ffor Stockyng of the bellys	xxs.	
1566-68	Itm. payed to hysted ffor makyng of iij bawdryks & makyng of a newe Rope for the second bell		xij <i>d.</i>

RAMSGATE.

ST. GEORGE.

1 Bell.

I., 39-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1827

CHRIST CHURCH.

3 Bells.

One by C. and G. Mears, of London, dated 1847 ; and two by Gillett, Bland, and Co., of Croydon.

RAMSGATE.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. PAUL.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

RECVLVER.

Formerly 4 Bells.

In the old church, now dismantled and in ruins, there were in 1758 four bells, all made by Joseph Hatch in 1635. One of these is now in use at the new church at Hilborough, and there is another at Badlesmere; the others, probably, like last winter's snow, melted.

There are old parish accounts here, commencing in 1638, and for the following extracts from them I am indebted to the Rev. A. T. Browne, curate in charge of Hilborough :

1637-8	It. p ^d unto Abraham Twigden for nyne daies and a halves worke att two shillings the daie for mendinge of the timber worke of the belles ...	19s.	od.
	It. for a peece of timber of seaven foote to make two stockes for the bells	8s.	od.
	It. p ^d for five staples with keies for the belles ...	13s.	od.
	It. p ^d for yronn worke done about the bells by Rob ^t Extill	11s.	2d.
	It. p ^d unto the Clarke for helpinge the carpenter ...	5s.	10d.
	It. laid out for a newe roape for the great bell ...	5s.	8d.
	It. p ^d for fetchinge of the stockes & yron worke from Canterburey	2s.	od.
	It. p ^d unto Robert Chilton for the trussinge of the great Bell	1s.	od.
	It. more p ^d unto Willim Wrigth for cleaninge of the steeples & leades & to helpe y ^e Carpenter About the belles... ..	1s.	4d.
1638-9	It. payd to Robert Chilton for 2 dayes and for boordes and nayles used about the great bell ...	5s.	10d.
	It. for a man to help on day	1s.	od.

	It. payde to Edward Gatman for mendinge the sheeres and keyes	1s.	2d.
	It. payde for a bell rope	5s.	6d.
1640	Itm. p ^d to Adrian Moys for y ^e second bell rope ...	5s.	od.
	Itm. payd to Edw. Gatman for nayles used about y ^e bells	os.	10d.
	Itm. p ^d to W ^m Wright for healping y ^e carpenter & a peice of wood for y ^e bells	1s.	6d.
	Itm. payd to Adr. Moys for y ^e smalbell rope ...	3s.	od.
1642	It. payde to Adriann Moyse for two bell Ropes one for y ^e second & on for y ^e third	12s.	od.
	It. payde to Richard Foster for 2 dayes & a halfes work about trussing of y ^e bells and stufe used about them	4s.	6d.
	It. payde to James Morris Smith for nayles and plates used about y ^e bell wheeles & for mendinge of y ^e shovell	1s.	od.
1644	It. payd to Adrian Moyce for a bell Rope ...	3s.	8d.
1645-46	p ^d to Atherin Mois for a bell rope for the third Bell	5s.	6d.
	p ^d Richard Foster for worke about the Bells & Lead Latts	5s.	9d.
	p ^d James Morris the Smyth for Keyes Nayles rydes & hookes... ..	5s.	od.

RIDLEY.

ST. PETER.

1 Bell.

I., 10-in. Blank.

T. R. E. Item on bell.

Death knell rung as soon as notice received.

Bell rung for half an hour before a funeral, and for a few minutes before all services.

Thanks to Rector, the Rev. T. P. Phelps.

* **RINGWOULD.**

ST. NICHOLAS.

5 Bells.

I., 23-in. I ♯ W 1638

II., 25-in. Same.

III., 27-in. + **IOHANNES * EST * NOME *
ETVS**

IV., 29-in. I † W 1638

V., 32-in.



DEO † ET † ECCLESIAE † DEDIT † FRANCISCVS † DER-
ING † 1638 I † W

For mention of the 3rd bell, see p. 20. The shield on the tenor bears the Dering arms—a saltire with a mullet in chief.

The curfew bell is rung at 8 p.m. in the winter months,* for which there is an endowment of a piece of land half an acre in extent, called curfew land.

Death knell tolled. Apparently no “tellers.”

SUNDAYS.—One bell chimed at the half hour. At the quarter before service the bells are generally chimed, but occasionally rung.

Ring on New Year's Eve.

Best thanks to the Rector, Rev. M. A. Nisbet.

I regret to hear that this entire ring has been recast this year at the White-chapel foundry.

RIPPLE.

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

2 Bells.

I., 23-in. I † W 1639 E C C W

II., 25-in. I † W 1639

Passing bell rung as soon as possible. Age denoted, but apparently no “tellers.”

SUNDAYS.—Bells rung for service only.

Thanks to Rector, the Rev. H. N. Bernard.

RIVER.

ST. PETER.

1 Bell.

I., 23½-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1876

This replaces a pair which were inscribed as follows :

B

I., 17-in. S S 1680

II., 23-in. WILLIAM WHITHILL SAMVELL LAMOTT CHVRCH-
WARDENS 1671



* Apparently from All Souls' day till Candlemas.

Of these, one had disappeared prior to 1867, and the other was cracked and useless. The larger one came from the church of St. Michael, Crooked Lane, London, pulled down in making approaches to new London Bridge.

I cannot even hazard a guess at the founder of the smaller bell. It is so small as probably not to be the work of a regular bell-founder.

No local uses.

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. C. Morice.

RIVERHEAD.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I., 26½-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1831

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL. CHRIST AND THE B. V. M. 6 Bells.

I., 34-in. CAST IN THE YEAR 1695 RECAST IN THE YEAR 1770 BY PACK
& CHAPMAN OF LONDON

II., 34½-in. Blank.

III., 40-in. IOHN ♀ WILNAR ♀ MADE ♀ ME 1635

IV., 44-in. JAMES BAGLEY OF LONDON MADE ME 1712 A ∪ R

(IB)

V., 48-in. *CHRISTOPHERVS * HODSON * A°D * MDCLXXXIII
○○○○ FECIT
○○○○○○○○ ANNOQVE * SERNIS * REGIS *
CAROLI * II° * XXXV (Royal Arms on Waist.)

VI., 52-in. FECIT CHR^S HODSON. A.D. MDCLXXXIII : REGIS CAROLI II.
XXXV
REFECIT THO^S MEARS. A. D. MDCCCXXXIV : REGIS
GULIELMI IV. V.

Very little indeed is known of the history of the bells of the Cathedral until comparatively recent times. Mr. St. John Hope, the great authority in all matters connected with the history and fabric of the minster, has hitherto failed to find any "Fabric" or "Sacrist's" rolls, although he does not quite despair of some of them turning up, perhaps, in the Bishop's registry. For the present, however, we are driven to the scanty notices to be found in "Registrum Roffense," and the chronicle of William de Dene contained in "Anglia Sacra." Of the bells (if any) furnished to King Ethelbert's original structure, we know absolutely nothing. If there were none at first, doubtless the want was soon supplied. English churches certainly possessed bells prior to the

Norman Conquest, for there are records of their casting; and there is still preserved at York an inventory of the goods of the church of Sherburn in Elmet, in the early part of the tenth century, and it includes "iiij hand bellan & vj hangende bellan."*

Nor are we any better informed as to what Bishop Gundulf did in this respect when he rebuilt the Cathedral in 1080 or thereabouts. No doubt, however, he made due provision and, as Abbot Paul de Caen had done at St. Alban's Abbey a few years previously, stocked (*instauravit*) the central tower with bells. We have to wait seventy years and more before we come to the first recorded bell transaction. In 1154, Prior Reginald "*fecit duas campanas et posuit eas in majori turri. Una fracta apposita est ad aliam campanam faciendam.*" The mention of the broken bell clearly shows that this was not the first supply of these very necessary adjuncts, and I think that it points also to something else of decided antiquarian interest. It will be noticed that they were placed in the *larger* tower. This is readily identifiable, portions of it still remaining in the angle formed by the north transept and the eastern limb. It was, according to Mr. Hope, built previously to the Cathedral, detached from it, and probably a defensive work. I think we have here an instance of a belfry in the original and proper sense of the word, viz., a watch-tower; † and that the broken bell was the watch or alarm bell which it had previously held. Such towers, with their bells, are still to be found on the Continent; but I am not aware of one in England unless my theory here is correct.

The three bells placed in it by Prior Reginald appear to have given a name to the tower, and as late as the sixteenth century it was known as the "three-bell steeple."

Some years later we find the following: "Thalebot sacrista fecit et cloccam magnam que usque in hodiernum diem optinet nomen predicti Thaleboti."

Later still, in or about the year 1200: "Radulfus Bretun habuit in custodia de fratre suo qui necatus est transfretando, xv marcas argenti. Qui Radulfus in articulo mortis assignavit predictas marcas ad faciendam campanam pro anima fratris sui. Qui denarii traditi sunt Radulfo de Ros tunc sacriste qui cepit campanam fractam que longo tempore in navi ecclesie steterat et duxit Londonias et fecit campanam que dicitur Bretun que custavit xlv marcas."

* Fabric Rolls of York Minster, "Surtees Society."

† See Skeat's "Etymological Dict., Art. Belfry."

About sixty years later (1251-74) we read that "Ricardus de Waledene, ^{XX} monachus, sacrista, fecit campanam vocatam Andream que custavit IIII marcas."

The next entry (and unfortunately the last) occurs in the year 1343, when Bishop Haymo de Hythe caused the central tower to be heightened: "Necnon et quatuor campanas novas in eodem ponere quarum nomina sunt hec, Dunstanus, Paulinus, Itamarus atque Lanfrancus."

Thenceforward for nearly 300 years the history is a blank. In 1635, as we know simply from the inscription, the 3rd bell was recast.

In 1683 a contract was entered into with Christopher Hodson (described as of St Mary Cray, where he had a branch establishment, he being really a London founder) to recast the 5th and tenor bells for the sum of £120. The contract still exists among the muniments, as also a note of the respective weights of the old and new bells, as follows:

	Cwt.	qr.	lb.		Cwt.	qr.	lb.
Tenor (old)	29	00	10	(New)	30	01	05
fifth „	20	02	16	„	21	02	18

It would seem that the operation was performed somewhere quite handy, if not in the Cathedral precincts.

In 1695, the treble was recast by John Wood, of Chancery Lane, London (*vide* p. 91), at an expense of £9. The contract for this has also been preserved.

In 1711, the well-known Richard Phelps, of the Whitechapel Foundry, supplied an estimate of £25 for recasting a cracked bell weighing 15 cwt.; this apparently did not lead to business, as the bell in question (the 4th) was recast in the following year by James Bagley, of Cripplegate, London, on behalf of his father, Matthew Bagley, who was then very close to the end of his earthly career. His warranty for this and the work of "quarter-hanging" the 2nd bell is dated 1st December, 1712; by it he warrants for himself and Matthew Bagley, his father, that the 4th bell newly cast by him is a sound bell, and also that the 2nd bell, which he agreed to turn, "the striking sides or parts being much worne, shall be as good as a new bell, and retain the same note."

The later history of the ring may be gathered from the inscriptions. Probably the present six represent and contain much of the metal of the six whose manufacture we have chronicled above—Talbot, Breton, and the four with saintly dedications.

ROCHESTER.

ST. MARGARET.

6 Bells.

- I., 28-in. JNO^o WELLER & THO^s HUGGINS CH. WARDENS THO^s MEARS
OF LONDON FECIT 1790
- II., 29-in. { CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1884
RECAST 1884
G. PEAKE VICAR
T HEDGCOCK } CHURCHWARDENS
T LITTLEWOOD }
- III., 32-in. Same as No I.
- IV., 34-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ⑥ 1621
- V., 36-in. Same. 1624
- VI., 39½-in. Same as No. II.

Prior to recasting, the tenor bore the following inscription :

HE THAT RINGS ME WALL THE TENNOR NOTE I WILL
TRULEY TELL THO^s BAKER & IN^o HICKOTT CH :
WARDENS 1761 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON
FECIT

The former 2nd was also of the date 1761, and by Lester and Pack.

T. R. E. Item in the steeple v smawlle bells one lacking the clapper.

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Commence with tellers (abnormal)—3 × 3 for a man, 3 × 2 for a woman, 2 × 3 for a boy, 2 × 2 for a girl ; then toll for about quarter of an hour. Tenor bell always used.

In 1503, Amisia Manser, of this parish, by her will bequeathed : “ Pro factura campane ibidem de novo iij. s. ivd. (*Ex inform.* Mr. E. H. W. Dunkin in *Reliquary* for 1877-8.)

ST. NICHOLAS.

2 Bells.

- I., 25½-in. IOHN BVRGES THOMAS SYMONS CHVRCHWARDENS 1695
I ⑥ B
- II., 37-in. WILLIAM HATCH MADE ME M C I H C W ⑥ 1654
- T. R. E. No mention of bells in inventory.

ST. PETER.

1 Bell.

- I., 24-in. J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1858

ST. MATTHEW BORSTAL.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell only.

BRIDGE CHAPEL.

In this chapel, now not in existence, there was a bell in 1552; and the inventory further presents that a sacryng bell of silver had been stolen.

RODMERSHAM.

S. NICHOLAS.

4 Bells.

I., 33-in. ✠ S A N C T A ✠ K A T E R I N A ✠
O R A ✠ P R O ✠ N O B I S

II., 36-in. I ♠ W 1633

III., 37-in. IOHN DARBIE MADE ME 1657 T A G V W C

IV., 41-in. IOHN ♠ WILNAR ♠ MADE ♠ ME 1620

For mention of treble, see p. 21. Cross and stop are Figs. 5 and 4 respectively.

Tolling tenor by ringing it up before any chiming for services, always done by the old clerk.

ROLVENDEN.

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

8 Bells.

I., 28½-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1819

II., 29½-in. Same.

III., 31-in. Same.

IV., 33-in. Same.

V., 36-in. Same.

VI., 37½-in. Same.

VII., 40½-in. Same.

VIII., 46-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1827

JOHN HUTTON HOLE CHURCH WARDEN 1820

DEATH KNELL.—Tenor tolled—then for a male three small bells each chimed three times, for a female two bells each twice; then tenor tolled again. For a child under ten, 7th bell used instead of tenor.

On day of burial a knell at 7 a.m., and a bell tolled at the funeral.

SUNDAYS.—A peal at 8 a.m. ("Matins" bell). Bells chimed for services.

Peals on Easter Day and New Year's Eve. Also on Queen's birthday.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. E. H. Jones.

ROMNEY (NEW).

ST. NICHOLAS.

8 Bells.

- I., 27-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1809
 II., 28-in. CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1784
 III., 31-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1805
 IV., 34-in. Same.
 V., 36-in. JACOB WALTER & CHARLES ROLFE CHURCHWARDENS 1776
 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
 VI., 38-in. Same.
 VII., 43-in. Same as No. III.
 VIII., 47-in. JAMES BRISSENDEN O IOHN RVSSELL O CHVRCH WARDENS
 R . . C 1748

Death knell tolled on tenor for adults, small one for children. Tellers—three strokes for man, two for woman, one for child. A bell tolled at funerals whilst the body is being taken to the grave.

SUNDAYS.—Bells chimed for service. Small bell rung after morning service to let people know that there is an evening service.

Peals sometimes on New Year's Eve.

A bell for vestry and for some meetings of the corporation; presumably those which by an old (and bad) custom, are held *in the church*.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. R. M. South.

Church the sole survivor of three which existed here in the Middle Ages. One of them, dedicated to St. Martin, was removed by authority of Archbishop Cranmer in 1549. It then contained five bells weighing 46 cwt., and valued at £48 4s. *od.*, which tradition affirms to have been transferred to St. Nicholas.*

ROMNEY (OLD).

ST. CLEMENT.

3 Bells.

- I., 30-in. *iosep[h] hafelh made me* ☉ 1634
 ▽
 II., 34-in. ✠ *SADFA ANNA ORA PRO NOBIS*
 III., 36-in. IO : DEFFRAY : R : R . CHITTENDEN . CHVRCH :
 WARDEN : MAT . BAGLEY : FECIT 1709

An account of the 2nd bell will be found at p. 47. The shield has a cross, plain, as at Hoath. Initial cross, Fig. 29.

* "Arch. Cant.," xiii. 241.

ROOKSLEY.

NO CHURCH.

In 1552 there were here : ij bells of brasse suted in the steple.
j sants bell of brasse.

There are, I believe, still some small remains of this church. The place was once of sufficient importance to give its name to the Hundred. The family who derived their surname from it are well-known both in Kentish and City annals.

ROSHERVILLE.

ST. MARK.

1 Bell.

L., 31½-in. G. MEARS & C^o FOUNDERS LONDON

The Gift of George Breckley Rosher AD 1862
J. C. Gilling Incumbent

RUCKINGE.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

5 Bells.

I., 29½-in. SAMVELL KNIGHT MADE ME ∩ 1721 ∩ ∩

II., 31½-in. IOHN ∩ WAYLETT FECIT ME ♣ 1721 ♣

III., 32½-in. 1721

IV., 36½-in. IOHN WAYLETT FECIT ME ♣ 1721 ♣

V., 41½-in. PETER WADELL RICHARD LONKHURS 1740 T : LESTER MADE
ME

In 1517 Clement Harlakynnden bequeathed 8*l.* "to the bells of Roking." In 1521 Roger Haukyns gave 2*s.* to "the reparacion of the bells in the steple;" and in 1529 John Sharp gave the proceeds of sale of two houses at Halton on death of his son without issue, as to 10*s.*, for masses and "the residue my feoffees shall cause the mony to go to the byeng of a trebull bell for the church of Roking."*

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple.

Sold . . . a saunce bell.

Death knell rung. Tellers—3 × 3 for a man, 3 × 2 for a woman.

Bells sometimes rung, sometimes chimed, for services.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to the Rev. E. M. Muriel, Rector.

RUSTHALL.

ST. PAUL.

1 Bell.

I., 48-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1850

Death knell rung. Tellers—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 woman, 3 × 1 child.

Thanks to the Rev. F. F. Walrond, Vicar.

* "Arch. Cant.," xiii. 234.

RYARSH.

ST. MARTIN.

3 Bells.

I., 30½-in. REA^D MR. JAMES THURSTON MINISTER JEREMIAH HEAVER
CHURCH WARDEN 1779

PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT

II., 31¼-in. ioseph hatching made me 1616

III., 35-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1879

The former tenor bore the legend :

+ (Fig. 14) Sancta Urbs Cum Sodalibus Tuis Orate Pro
Nobis ∇ (Fig. 15)

A dedication probably unique in England. See p. 31.

Death knell rung as soon as notice given.

Bell tolled at funerals.

SUNDAY SERVICES.—Bells chimed ; one bell tolled for last five minutes.

"Fire bell" rung. This is, I think, the only instance in the county.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. E. R. Manwaring-White.

ST. LAURENCE.

ST. LAURENCE.

6 Bells.

I., 32½-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1808

II., 34½-in. Same.

III., 38-in. Same.

IV., 41½-in. Same.

V., 43½-in. Same.

VI., 47-in. THESE BELLS WERE CAST ANNO DOMINI 1808 REV^D RICH^D
HARVEY VICAR GEORGE STEVENS THOMAS WOOTTON
CHURCH WARDENS

THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT

Information as to local uses, etc., refused by Vicar, for the somewhat
Hibernian dual reasons : first, that he hasn't got the information ; and
secondly, that he is going to make use of it himself.

ST. LUKE.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. KATHARINE (MANSTONE).

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. MARGARET AT CLIFFE.

1 Bell.

I., 32-in. I C 1696

Bell by an absolutely unknown founder; probably a Canterbury man. There are two by him at Hoath, and these three are all that exist.

Local tradition asserts that, in days long since, there were more bells here than this one, and that they were sold to Ashford or Portsmouth. From the size of the tower, the tradition in its first part would seem to be correct; but no documentary or other evidence exists on the subject. The upper part of the tower was in a ruinous state for many years, and the bells may well have been sold for funds to repair; but I don't think they went to Ashford Church.

Very many thanks to the late Vicar, the Rev. E. C. Lucey.

ST. MARY IN THE MARSH. ST. MARY.

3 Bells.

I., 30-in. + (Fig. 14) Sancte Petre Ora Pro Nobis □ (Fig. 18)
▽ (Fig. 17)

II., 36½-in. × (Fig. 5) SIT ❁ NOME ❁ DOMINI
❁ BENEDICTVM

III., 40-in. ✠ (Fig. 1) In Multis Annis Resonet Campana
Iohannis ✠ (Fig. 5)

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steeple. No doubt the same that are now there—an interesting untouched pre-Reformation peal.

ST. NICHOLAS AT WADE.

5 Bells.

I., 35-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT Ⓢ 1625

II., 37-in. ioseph hatch made me Ⓢ 1615

III., 40-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1807

IV., 45½-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME Ⓢ 1615

V., 49½-in. THOMAS BRIDGES RALPH GREEDERS CH WAR-
DENS I H 1692

ST. PETERS.

6 Bells.

I., 31-in. THO^s SWAIN ○ MADE MEE IN 1777 ○ ○ ○
Tho^s Swain Fecit.

II., 31-in. ROBERT CATLIN FECIT 1746

III., 34-in. Same.

IV., 37½-in. ROBERT BARFIELD HENRY SHIVENS CHURCH WARDENS 1822
T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT

V., 39½-in. ROBERT CATLIN CAST US ALL 1746

VI., 44½-in. THE REV^D JOHN PIGOT VICAR JOHN MOCKETT & THOMAS
PAIN CH. WARDENS. THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1800.

Bells generally in bad order and some cracked ; consequently no ringing, only chiming for services. Apparently no local customs.

Best thanks to the Rev. A. Whitehead, Vicar.

Lewis, in the "History of Thanet" (1723), states : "Anciently five bells, which a few years ago were cast into six, the Great Bell being made two."

Cracked bells recast and ring put in order this year, 1887.

SALTWOOD. SS. PETER AND PAUL. 5 Bells.

I., 28½-in. IOHN WAYLETT MADE ME 1722

II., 29-in. THOMAS PEPPER IVNER 1722

III., 30-in. Same as No. I.

IV., 34½-in. Same as No. I.

V., 38½-in. DAVID OVLDFIELD THOMAS BLACKCOCK C : W
IOHN WAYLETT FECIT 1723

T. R. E. Item iiij bells hanging in the steeple of the same parisshe.

The third word on No. 2 bell is rather a puzzle ; the first letter is clearly an I, and whether the words stands for "Junior" or "Tuner," it is equally misspelt. I rather incline to the former theory myself, as the name of Pepper occurs locally in the registers of this date.

SANDGATE. ST. PAUL. 1 Bell.








A small modern tinkler, invisible and, according to the Vicar, almost inaudible. "Remote, unfriended, melancholy, slow."

SANDHURST. ST. NICHOLAS. 5 Bells.

I., 30½-in. ioseph hatch made me 1607 A F

II., 33-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME 1607

III., 36-in. WILLIA ♢ HVLL ♢ MADE ♢ MEE ♢ 1678 ♣ ♢ ♢ ♣ ♢
THOMAS ♢ CRVTTENDEN ♢ IOHN ♢ RVSELL ♢ CHVRCH
♢ W ♣

IV., 37¾-in. +      
+  En Multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis
+ ▽ (Fig. 22)

V., 42¾-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT 1619

For mention of the 4th bell, see p. 39. The crosses are *like* Fig. 9, but not identical.

DEATH KNELL.—Tellers— 3×3 for male, 3×2 for female; then toll for about an hour. Rung about two hours after death, unless at night, then at 8 next morning.

Bell tolled for an hour before funeral.

Bells rung for five minutes at 8 a.m. on Sundays, and holy-days when there is service. (Qy. survival?) For morning and evening services ring half an hour; small bell alone for last five minutes. Also for five minutes *after* morning service.

Ringings on New Year's Eve.

A bell for vestry meeting.

The following are extracts from "A Register Booke of y^e Sesses and disbursments for y^e Church and y^e Poore and also divers other necessary thinges fit to be kept in memorye." Book ranges from 1615 to 1695, but is not perfect :

1648	Item payd to Gynder for mending the bells	...	4s.	0d.
	Item payd the smith for Iron work	... ..	1s	0d.
1651	It. payd for repairing the Bells	.. ...	4s.	3d.
1653	Imprimis payd to Steven Gynder for repairing the bells	... ..	3s.	0d.
	Item payd unto J. Tedman for a new Clapper being 37 lb weight	... ..	13s.	0d.
1656	Item payd unto Steph. Gynder for work about the bells	... ..	1 <i>li.</i>	4s. 2d.
1664	It. payd Stephen Gynder for making of a new wheel and Trussing of two Bells y ^e sum of	...	16s.	8d.
1677	payd for Smith's work about the bells	... ..	1s.	0d.
1678	Item paid to Will. Hull for casting the fourth bell and for hanging of others of the bells as his receipt makes appear	... ..	8 <i>li.</i>	4s. 0d.
	Item paid to Will. Woods for Iron work used about the belles as his bill makes appear	... ..	2 <i>li.</i>	1s. 8d.
	Item paid to Joseph Cruttenden of Rolvenden for carrying the bell to Hailsham and bringing her back again	... ..	18s.	0d.
	Item paid to Goodman King for stock for y ^e third Bell	... ..	3s.	6d.

	Item paid to Will. Moore for going to Hailsham to see the Bell made	2s.	od.
	Item paid to Will. Moore for lodging the Bell-founder and fetching the Stocks from the Green	4s.	6d.
	Item spent upon the men that did helpe take down the bell	1s.	od.
1684	Item paid to Mr Broomfield for new Stocks and new wheels and hanging of the bells	22 <i>li.</i>	os. od.
	Item paid to the men for mending the fourth bell	16s.	od.
	Item for expences when we put out the bells ...	3s.	6d.
	Item wee spent at several times about the bells ...	18s.	6d.
1685	Item paid to Will. Woods for mending the Clapper of the 3 bell	2s.	od.
1689	paid to Will ^m Woods for cleaning the brasses of the Bells & oil to fill the brasses again... ..	1s.	6d.

The bells were new hung, fitted with fresh wheels, gudgeons, etc., by Messrs. Warner and Sons, in 1876, at an expense of upwards of £70.

Very hearty thanks to the Rector, the Rev. George Ridout.

SANDWICH.

ST. PETER.

8 Bells.

I., 27½-in.	I MEAN TO MAKE IT UNDERSTOOD THAT THO' I'M LITTLE YET I'M GOOD MEARS & C ^O FECIT 1779
II., 30-in.	TO HONOR BOTH OF GOD & KING OUR VOICES SHALL IN CONSORT RING W ^W MEARS & C ^O LONDON FECIT 1779
III., 32-in.	WHILST THUS WE JOIN IN CHEARFULL SOUND MAY LOVE AND LOYALTY ABOUND W ^M MEARS & C ^O LONDON FECIT 1779
IV., 34½-in.	MUSIC IS MEDICINE TO THE MIND MEARS & C ^O 1779
V., 36-in.	IN WEDLOCK BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH HANDS AND HARTS UNITE SO SHALL OUR TUNEFULL TONGUES COMBINE TO LAUD THE NUPTIALS RITE MEARS & C ^O FECIT
VI., 38½-in.	PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOURWOOD W ^M MEARS & C ^O LONDON FECIT 1779
VII., 42-in.	YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE YOUR HEALTH & HAPPINESS BE SOBER MERRY WISE & YOU'LL THE SAME POSSESS W ^M MEARS & C ^O OF LONDON FECIT 1779
VIII., 46½-in.	FORBES 1779 THE REV ^D M ^R J CONANT A M RECTOR W W BRADLY W PRICE CHL WARDENS 1779

It is stated, on what authority is unknown, that prior to the recasting in 1779 there were six bells, known as the "Six Oxfords," which had been transferred here from Christ Church, Canterbury.

In 1758 there were here "5 Bells. The 4 smallest were made by Joseph Hatch, 1625, and the Largest or Tennor by S. Knight, 1727."—*Bryan Faussett*.

Boys' "History of Sandwich" states that the recasting in 1779 cost £430 12s. 6d., which was defrayed by the metal of the old bells, a subscription among the inhabitants, and a moderate contribution from the rates.

He gives the weights, as follows :

	Cwt.	qr.	lb.						
I.	4	2	27						
II.	5	0	13						
III.	5	3	15						
IV.	7	1	24						
V.	7	2	23						
VI.	9	2	1						
VII.	11	3	13						
VIII.	15	2	9						
							£	s.	d.
				67	3	13 @	£5	8s.	0d.
							365	19	11
Bell ropes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	14	0
New stocks, iron work, altering frame, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	0	0
Landing and wharfrage of the old bells	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	18	7
Weight of the six old bells	55	cwt.	1	qr.	6	lb.	@		
£4 10s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...	246	12	6
Subscription	...	...	...	...	...	...	147	10	0

The following notes as to local uses here are copied from the same book ; I don't know whether they exist at the present day :

"The Sexton . . . has a salary from the parish of 40s. for tolling the Tenor whenever service requires. He rings likewise the tenor bell every night at 8 o'clock, unless there be a burial at the church, and again in the morning at 4 o'clock, from a fortnight after Michaelmas to a fortnight before old Lady Day, except on Sundays, and in the 12 days after Christmas, for which he has from the Corporation annually 3 pounds, and an allowance of

6s. 8d. for Candles and Oil. Are not these a continuation of the ancient corfew and matin bell? The Sexton formerly had an annual allowance of 4s. from the Corporation for ringing at this church 'brandgosè' bell at 1 o'clock and the 'curfu' at 8.

"The sexton also rings the 4th bell at every common assembly by way of notice to the freemen that the Mayor and Jurats are proceeding to the Hall. This custom originated probably in a decree made in 1534, that at a common Assembly, when the Mayor comes into the Hall, a bell at St. Peter's called brandegoose bell shall begin to ring and continue to be rung half an hour, and fines were fixed for non-attendance in that time. For this and for ringing the bell on Market day the Sexton was allowed a salary of 4s."

This "Brandgoose" bell (can any one suggest a derivation?) was clearly the market bell; the town ordinances laying down that fish and poultry were not to be sold until it had been rung.

SANDWICH.

ST. CLEMENT.

1, formerly 5 Bells.

I., 32-in. * IOHN * HODSON * MADE * ME * 1672 ❀ IOHN *
 WHEELER ❀ ○ ○ ○ ○
 ❀ ISAAC * PEARCE * CHVRCH * WARDENS ❀ ❀ CHRIS-
 TOPHER * HODSON

The other four bells of the ring were similarly inscribed. They were sold not many years since to help raise funds for the restoration of the church.

In 1508 Benett Webbys bequeathed to the reparation of the bells of St. Clements vjs. viijd.—("Testamenta Vetusta," p. 492.)

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

1 Bell.

I., 25-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1876.

This replaces a bell which bore the following inscription :

THIS BEL WAS BOUGHT & STEEPLE BUILT A D 1718
 I: BRADLEY R: HARVEY CH: WARDENS R: P: F:

The tower fell in 1667, carrying the then ring of five bells with it. It was not rebuilt until 1718; in the meantime the bells, so local tradition states, were sold to Elham Church. This is doubtless correct, as has been shown in connection with that church. The following entry of their casting appears in the parish accounts here :

1640 Paid Henry Wilnor for the use of the widow of
 John Wilnor for casteing of our five bells and
 hanging them £32 os. od.
 To Thomas Barret for makeing the quarters to
 strike upon the 4th Bell 23s. 8d., the Dutch paid
 halfe 11s. 6d.

Prior to 1639 there had been three bells only.

In Boys' "History of Sandwich" it is stated that in the Bederoll of benefactors to be here prayed for occurs *inter alios* :

"Also for the sowle of Robard Crystmesse of whos goodys was gevyn unto the chaunge of these bellys, xlii."

The churchwardens' accounts here date back as far as 1444, and of course there are entries relating to the bells. The "great bell" or "best bell," the "Mary bell," the "little bell," and the 4th bell are all mentioned, from which it would seem that the three which were recast into five in 1639 were only the remains of a ring of four or five.

There were also the "sacring" bell, and the "wakerell" or sanctus.

In the accounts for 1444 to 1582, the items for making new clappers and providing new ropes are very frequent. The bells were rung in thunderstorms, as appears from the following :

1507 Paid for bread and Drink for the Ringers on Saint Lambards
 day at night in the Thundering 1d.
 To the Sexton for drink when it thundered 1½d.

In 1632 it was at a vestry "generally consented by free voices that Rob^t Liddell shall ring the Bell to the sermon every Saboath day."

In 1639 the churchwardens were empowered to agree with "John Wilnor of Borden in y^e said County, Bell founder," for the recasting. It appears that the 3rd bell only was cracked, and that to recast that by itself would cost £16, while to recast the whole three heavy bells into a light ring of five would only cost £36; so this last was the course agreed to. It would seem that the payment of £32, above mentioned, was the final payment at the end of the "year and a day" for which, doubtless, the bells had been warranted.

The cost of the bell purchased in 1718 was £14 5s. 11d.

Passing bell rung, but not at any fixed interval. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female; both at beginning and end of peal.

On day of burial, bell rung at 7 a.m. for about half an hour, called the "knell." Tolled also at time of funeral service.

SUNDAYS.—Warning bell rung for a few minutes at 9 a.m. or 1 p.m., according to whether service is in morning or afternoon. Rung also, of course, before service.

Bell rung for vestry meetings.

In the costs of an obit, the following occurs among the payments :

To the Sexton for 2 peals with all the bells 12*d*.

Very many thanks to the Rev. A. M. Chichester, Vicar.

SANDWICH.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

1 Bell.

I., 15½-in. P 166£

Bell doubtless by Thomas Palmer, of Canterbury.

SEAL.

ST. PETER.

5 Bells.

I., 30-in. ♣ IOHN ♢ HODSON ♢ MADE ♢ ME ‡ 1660 ‡ W T ‡ I L ‡
O W H O

C ‡ WARDENS ♣

II., 31½-in. ♣ IOHN ‡ HODSON ‡ MADE ‡ ME ‡ 1660 ‡ WILLIAM
‡ THOMPSON O ♣ ♣ IOHN ‡ LOVEIOY ‡ CHVRCH
‡ WARDENS ♣ O W H O ♣

III., 32½-in. THO^S LESTER & T: PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1758

IV., 36½-in. × **SIN** ♣ **DOMEN** ♣ **DOMINI** ♣
BENEDICTVM

V., 38½-in. ♢ ST PHANVS ♢ SWAN ♢ ME ♢ FECIT ♢ ANNO ♢ DOMINI
‡ 1609 ‡

‡ WILLIAM ♢ COX ‡ ‡ IOHN ♢ RAVEN ♢ WARDENS

O O O O O O

For mention of 4th bell, see p. 21. Cross is Fig. 5 ; stop, Fig. 4.

Death knell rung as soon as possible. Tellers—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman.

SUNDAYS.—A peal at 8 a.m., and again at mid-day.

Ring on New Year's Eve, and on 5th November.

A bell for vestry.

Thanks to the Rev. C. E. Few, Vicar.

SEAL.

ST. LAURENCE.

2 Bells.

Modern church, with presumably two modern bells.

SEASALTER.

ST. ALPHEGE (Old Church).

1 Bell.

I., 23-in. *Robertus ꝥ mot ꝥ me ꝥ fecit ꝥ* 1592 ☸

ST. ALPHEGE (New Church).

1 Bell.

I., 42½-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON
 THE GIFT OF M^{RS} WYNN ELLIS OF TANKERTON
 1845

SELLINDGE.

ST. MARY.

5 Bells.

I., 27½-in. S K 1723

II., 29-in. SAMVELL KNIGHT 1723

III., 31-in. GVLIELMVS HVIT SAMVELL KNIGHT FECIT 1723

IV., 34-in. THO— ELGAR HEZERY BARTON CW SK 1723

V., 37½-in. MESS^{RS} THO^S BAKER & CALEB CAISTER CHURH WARDENS
 CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1783

T. R. E. First in the stepe ll iiij bells.

Item a hand bell.

The tenor was also by Samuel Knight, and dated same as the rest—before
 1783.

One of the ring is cracked and dismounted, awaiting recasting.

Death knell rung. Tellers—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman, 2 × 3 boy,
 2 × 2 girl.

On day of burial, a bell tolled at 8 a.m., and again at the time of the
 funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Bells used for services only. One bell rung for a few minutes
 at the half-hour before—and continuously for the last ten minutes before—
 service.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Apparently no peals, the tower being out of repair.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. R. S. Patrick.

SELLING.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

I., 28½-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1766

II., 30½-in. Same.

- III., 32½-in. Same.
 IV., 33-in. THESE SIX BELLS CAST BY SUBSCRIPTION ANNO D^o 1766
 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT
 V., 35-in. JOHN POTTER BELLHANGER LESTER & PACK OF LONDON
 FECIT 1766
 VI., 38½-in. Same as No. 1.

In 1760 Mr. Faussett gives us the following inscriptions on the then ring of four :

- I. Sancte Roberte Ora Pro Nobis
 II. Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum
 III. In Multis Annis Vocor (? Resonet) Campana Iohannis
 IV. William Hatch made me Mary 1567 (? 1657)

SEVENOAKS.

ST. NICHOLAS.

8 Bells.

- I., 31-in. GEORGE LAKE ESQ^R 1769 I HOPE TO MAKE IT UNDER-
 STOOD THAT THO' I'M LITTLE YET I'M GOOD
 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
 II., 31½-in. IF YOU HAVE A JUDICIOUS EAR YOU'LL OWN MY VOICE
 IS SWEET & CLEAR PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
 FECIT 1769
 III., 33-in. SUCH WONDROUS POW'R TO MUSIC'S GIVEN IT ELEVATES
 THE SOUL TO HEAVEN PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
 1769
 IV., 36-in. YE PEOPLE ALL WHO HEAR ME RING BE FAITHFUL TO
 YOUR GOD & KING PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
 FECIT 1769
 V., 39½-in. WHILST THUS WE JOIN IN CHEARFUL SOUND MAY LOVE
 & LOYALTY ABOUND PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
 FECIT 1769
 VI., 41-in. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1769. THIS BELL
 AND SEVEN OTHERS OF THE SAME DATE WERE PUR-
 CHASED BY THE SUBSCRIPTIONS OF THE PARISHIONERS
 ADDED TO THE METAL OF SIX OLD BELLS MELTED
 DOWN
 MUSICK IS MEDICINE TO THE MIND
 VII., 46-in. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1771
 J^{no} COVELL T WOOD R PALMER T MILLS OVERSEERS

VIII., 51-in. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT T. CURTEIS DD
 RECTOR & VICAR T WRIGHT MICH. HOLMDEN C^H WAR-
 DENS 1769
 IN WEDLOCK BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH HANDS
 YOUR HEARTS UNITE
 SO SHALL OUR TONGUES COMBINE TO LAUD THE NUP-
 TIAL RITE

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Tenor bell used for adults, 6th for children. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female—then toll, and repeat tellers at finish. Not repeated on day of funeral—bell tolled for service only.

Bells rung or chimed for Sunday and week-day services.

Peals in the early morning of Easter Day, Christmas Day, and Whitsun Day. On last night of year, a dumb peal rung before midnight and an open peal after.

Best thanks to Sexton, Mr. Hills.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

1 Bell.

I. J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1857

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. J. S. Bartlett.

ST. MARY (Kippington).

1 Bell.

I. GILLETT BLAND & C^O CROYDON 1880

Weight, 5½ cwt.

Thanks to Rev. G. E. Tate, Vicar.

SEVENOAKS (WEALD). ST. GEORGE.

1 Bell.

I., 28¾-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1839

SEVINGTON.

ST. MARY.

4 Bells.

I., 28½-in. { HATCH 1630
 RECAST MEARS 1885
 II., 31-in. ~~ioseph~~ hatch made me 1630
 III., 33½-in. Same.
 IV., 37-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT 1630

T. R. E. Item a saerying bell.

Item iiij bells in the steple with an hand bel for corsyse.

Prior to the recasting, the treble bore the same inscription as Nos. 2 and 3, but without the foundry-stamp.

SHADOXHURST.

SS. PETER & PAUL.

1 Bell.

I., 32½-in. R E D N A O F T I E I O C L E B E L F O V N D E R 1592 R T

T. R. E. ij bells in the steple.

Sold . . . ij little bells in the church.

Hasted states that in his time, the close of the last century, there were here three bells. He is, however, not quite trustworthy on this point, and I think he is wrong here. There has never been but one within the memory of the oldest inhabitant, and the present turret certainly has no room for more. It is, however, I believe, a comparatively recent erection, and therefore of not much use as evidence.

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female ; no distinction made for children.

This is repeated at 7 a.m. on the day of the funeral.

Bell otherwise used only to call to service.

Thanks to Mr. Woodgate, parish clerk.

SHEERNESS.

ST. PAUL.

1 Bell.

A small bell by Warner and Sons, dated a few years back.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

Also a small bell by Warner and Sons.

DOCKYARD CHAPEL.

3 Bells.

I., 15-in. 1814

II., 18-in. 1814

III., 28-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON ↓

The two smaller bells were destroyed in the fire a few years ago. What has become of the other one I don't know ; but I understand that three new ones (19, 21, and 27 inches) have recently been supplied by Messrs. E. Dent and Co. The two smaller bells are (and were) quarter bells only.

SHELDWICH.

ST. JAMES.

6 Bells.

- I., 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1865
 II., 30-in. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1867
 III., 33-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1801
 IV., 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. Same.
 V., 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. Same.
 VI., 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. JOHN COBB JUN^R JOSEPH HUMPHERY CHURCHWARDENS
 THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1801
 MAY ALL WHOM I SHALL SUMMON TO THE GRAVE THE BLESSING
 OF A WELL SPENT LIFE RECEIVE

The frame has been altered of late years, and Nos. 4 and 5 are on a higher tier than the others ; apparently a clumsy expedient to save expense. There is plenty of room on the one tier for all six, but it would have involved almost an entirely new frame.

Death knell as soon as notice given. Tenor bell for adults, 4th for children. Commence with tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female ; chime ten minutes, raise bell and ring for a short time, finish with tellers as at beginning.

At 8 a.m. on day of funeral, sound tellers, then raise bell and ring (double) minute strokes. Bell tolled before funeral.

Peals rung on Easter morning, Christmas Eve and Day, Whitsun Day, Ascension Day, Queen's birthday, and (generally) on New Year's Eve.

Here are very excellent rules for the ringers.

SHIPBOURNE.

ST. GILES THE ABBOT.

6 Bells.

- I., 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. }
 II., 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. } **M D C C C L X X X**
 III., 31-in. } **T : C : L**
 IV., 33-in. }
 V., 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. }
 VI., 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. **S : GILES M D L X X X V : R E -**
C A S E : M D C C C L X X X T : C : L

The old peal of four which these replace, were as under :

- I., 25-in. ♣ **Sancte Gabriel Ora Pro Nobis**
 II., 28-in. ⊕ **GYLES REVE B F O 1585** (Curious figures of men and animals.)
 III., 29-in. † **STEPHANVS † SWAN † ME † FECIT † † 1614 †**
 IV., 32-in. † **IB † HK † CW † † IOHN † WILMAR † MADE † ME † 1633**

It will be noticed that an awfully bad shot has been made on the new tenor ; Giles Reve, the bell-founder, of 1585, has apparently been confounded with the Patron Saint of the church. Old inscriptions had better not be reproduced at all than be blundered. See p. 42 for account of former treble, by William Powdrell, bell-founder, of London.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Toll fifteen minutes, and same just before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Rung for services only.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to the Rev. A. P. Wharton.

SHOLDEN.

ST. NICHOLAS.

3 Bells.

- I., 27½-in. THOMAS BARTLET MADE ME 1623 ☉
W † H † H † H † CHVRCHWARDENS
- II., 29-in. ♣ IOHN † HODSON † C H † MADE † ME † 1675 ♣ ○ ○
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
♣ WILLIAM † HILDE † GAVE † THIS † BELL † BY † HIS
† WILL † P † B^y † W † S
- III., 30½-in. THOMAS BARTLET MADE ME 1623 ☉
WILLIAM HILDE AND HENRY HARWARD CHVRCH-
WARDENS

SHOOTER'S HILL.

Vide ELTHAM AND PLUMSTEAD.

SHOREHAM.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

6 Bells.

- I., 27½-in. IOHN CAPON ROGER ATWOOD CHVRCHWARDENS
1693
- II., 28½-in. IOHN † HODSON † MADE † 1675 ♣ ○ ○ ○ ○ C H ○ ○
♣ RIVERS † STEDOLPH † GEORGE † SMALL † C † WAR-
DENS ○
- III., 29½-in. ♣ IOHN † HODSON † MADE † ME † 1672 ♣ EDWARD
† OLIVER ♣ MINISTER ♣ WILLIAM † GIBSON †
FRANCIS † EVEREST † C † W ○ ○ C H ○
- IV., 32-in. I † W 1635
- V., 34½-in. IOHN WILKIN 1635
- VI., 39½-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1850

SHORNE.	SS. PETER AND PAUL.	6 Bells.
I., 27-in.	THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1803	
II., 29-in.	Same.	
III., 31-in.	Same.	
IV., 32-in.	Same.	
V., 34½-in.	Same.	
VI., 37½-in.	THE REV ^D ROB ^T FOOTE VICAR M ^R JARVIS NOAKES M ^R WILLIAM BILBOE CH. WARDENS T MEARS FECIT 1803	
No information obtainable from Vicar.		

SHORTLANDS.	ST. MARY.	1 Bell.
Modern church with presumably one modern bell.		
SIBERTSWOLD.	ST. ANDREW.	1 Bell.
I., 24-in.	Blank.	
A modern bell.		

SIDCUP.	ST. JOHN EVANGELIST.	6 Bells.
I., 27-in.	C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1844	
II., 28-in.		
III., 30-in.	THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1839	
IV., 32-in.		
V., 34-in.		
VI., 37-in.		

SISSINGHURST.	HOLY TRINITY.	1 Bell.
Presumably one modern bell, stated to be devoid of inscription. Church built 1838.		

SITTINGBOURNE.	ST. MICHAEL.	8 Bells.
I., 31-in.	CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS 1884	
	VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO	
II., 31½-in.	CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS 1884	
	W. H. DYSON VICAR	
	HENRY THOMAS TIDY	} CHURCH WARDENS
	ROBERT CHAPMAN	

- III., 32-in. JAMES BARTLET MADE ME 1687 ☸ THOMAS
LVSHINGTON
- IV., 34½-in. JAMES BARTLET MADE ME 1687 ☸
- V., 38-in. Same.
- VI., 40½-in. Same.
- VII., 44½-in. Same.
- VIII., 49-in. Same. JOHN KEETE IOHN EASTMAN CHVRCH-
WARDENS
WILLIAM CATLETT ☸

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. First chime tenor, then raise 6th or 7th according to age, lower, end with tellers on tenor—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female. Tenor tolled when funeral is passing.

SUNDAYS.—The 8 and 9 o'clock peals were discontinued about ten years ago. The 7th was used, excepting on "Sacrament Sunday," when the treble was used at 8. Bells rung for all Sunday services; "toll in" on tenor last five minutes.

Peals rung on all Church festivals and loyal anniversaries.

No vestry bell *now*.

Best thanks to the Rev. Henry Venn, Vicar.

The old ring of six is very fine in tone. Not long after their being placed here they were an object of admiration of a transatlantic visitor, Samuel Sewall, an American judge, who notes thus in his diary, under date 15 August, 1689: "So to Sittingburn, lodge at the George, rains hard in the night. In the morn a good Ring of 6 Bells entertains us: no whether for the Ringers to work."

Part of the frame for the old sanctus bell still exists, close to the eastern window of the belfry. It was evidently rung from there. A doorway still exists, giving a clear view of the high altar.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

A small "factory-hung" bell, dated 1868, by Warner and Sons. Reported locally as "the scourge of the district," rung three-quarters of an hour before every service.

SMALL HYTHE.

St. JOHN BAPTIST.

1 Bell.

I., 17½-in. T ♀ F ♀

3 F 2

SMARDEN.

ST. MICHAEL.

5 Bells.

- I., 34-in. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1760
 II., 37-in. JAMES POPE CH: WARDEN 1769 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
 FECIT
 III., 39-in. **ROBERTUS** ♣ **MOI** ♣ **ME** ♣
FECIT 1601 Ⓢ
 IV., 43-in. THOMAS GREENHILL ROBERT HOOKER CHURCH-
 WARDENS R: PHELPS LONDINI FECIT 1729
 V., 48-in. M^R THO^S DANE & M^R W^M GIBBON CH: WARDENS
 1760 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT

T. R. E. Item v bellys and a saunc' bell.

There is an interesting series of the churchwardens' accounts, from 1536 downwards. The following entries occur in them :

1546-7	It. payd to Edward Pellande for mēdyng of the lytle bell claper & for mendyng of the canapye	xxij <i>d</i> .
	It. payd for shutyng of xxxiij li of brasse for the bellys iij <i>d</i> . the pownde	viijs. iij <i>d</i> .
	It. payd for xix li of newe brasse vj <i>d</i> . the li the sñia	ixs. vj <i>d</i> .
	It. payd for new trussyng of the bell and hangg- ynge	iiijs.
	It. payd for carynge of the brassys twesse to Godmersam	xij <i>d</i> .
1548	Itm. resseuyd of Henry Ponnet ffore belle brasse & latten	xiijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
1557	Itm. paid to father Sharpe for a litle bell ... Itm. to Pelland for mendinge the clapper of our bell (& other work)	iiij <i>d</i> . xxij <i>d</i> .
1563	Itm. rec. of Willm Whytt for a bell and a cruett	xvj <i>d</i> .
1572-3	Itm. laid out for the ringers when the quenes grace was here	ijs. xd.
1573	Itm. layde oute for ringinge for the queene ...	xij <i>d</i> .
1580	For leather for bawdricks	ijs. vj <i>d</i> .
1585	For carynge the bell to Maidstone	xs.

	Sending the bell home from London to Feuer-		
	sham	iijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
	p ^d at feuersham for cariadge and to the water		
	balife		xvii <i>d.</i>
	for caryinge the bell from feuersham to Chal-		
	locke	iijs.	vii <i>d.</i>
	to Richard Swaisland for bringinge the bell		
	home	vjs.	vii <i>d.</i>
	spent in meat & drink in hanginge up the bell	iijs.	iiij <i>d.</i>
1599	Rec from M ^r Henrye James towards the bells	xxvjs.	vii <i>d.</i>
1604	In primis layd out for fetchinge the bells ffrom		
	Fev ^r shā	xxxiijs.	
	Ite. layde out for carriage	viijs.	
	Ite. for the townes wharfidge		xvj <i>d.</i>
	Ite. our brackfast	iijs.	vii <i>d.</i>
	Ite. spent a hanginge of the bells up		vii <i>d.</i>
	Ite. payd for carriage the bells and fetchinge		
	them home	ii <i>j/z.</i>	
	P ^d to Mayster Moate*	xx <i>j/z.</i>	
1607	P ^d at Cantburie for my charges in going to		
	cantyburye to give in my answer for the Kings		
	armes cushen and the greate bell		xvii <i>d.</i>
1609	Item expended in interteyneing the bell founder		
	at his first comeing		xvii <i>d.</i>
	Item for his chardges in travelling to London		
	about the bell	xjs.	j <i>d.</i>
	Item paid for the Belfounder his supper at		
	Smerdon	iiijs.	
	Item paid at London for makeinge writeinge for		
	y ^e bell	ijs.	ij <i>d.</i>
	Item for his passage by water to London and to		
	the water bayliffe for the bell		xvj <i>d.</i>
	Item paid to M ^r Laurence of ffvershame ...	lijs.	
	for chardges the third jorney to London when		
	he paid for shootinge the bell	vs.	

* See inscription on 3rd bell.

1611	Item payd for our dynners the fowerth of September when the belle was hadd uppe into the steeple...	...	...	...	...	...	1ijs.	ij <i>d.</i>
1622	Item to y ^e Ringers on y ^e Kings majesty's coronation ...	...	...	...	...	...		7 <i>d.</i>
1623	John Rabbett for mending the dogs of the third bell and helping to new hang him ...	...	...	...	...	...	1 <i>s.</i>	
1632	To John Rabbit for ringing the sermon bell ...	...	...	...	...	...		6 <i>d.</i>
1703	Item given the ringers to ring upon y ^e queens crownacon day ...	...	...	...	...	...	5 <i>s.</i>	
1729	P ^d M ^r Stephenson for casting the bell ...	...	...	13 <i>d.</i>	13 <i>s.</i>	od.		

The following bequests are on record :

In 1464 William Matteras gave five marks towards a new bell. In the same year William Marlar, another parishioner, not only gave 13*s.* 4*d.* to the new belfry, but he made the new bell his residuary legatee: "*residuum vero bonorum meorum non legatum do et lego ad novam campanam,*" are the words of his will.

In 1498 John Skinner left 12*d.*—"ad repacoēm unius campane iñm."

There is also here (or rather, I am afraid, was) an endowment for bell ropes, and the deed by which this was given is sufficiently curious, I think, to be given in extenso, from a copy of a horribly bad translation, apparently made in the seventeenth century. The "coppie" is as follows :

Know all men by these presents and to come that I John Hamden have given granted in pure and everlasting memory and by this my present writting confirmed to y^e maintenance of y^e Rops Cords and Leather together for y^e Bells in the steeple of Smarden hanging when it shall be needfull the said Bells anew be like to repaire six shillings of lawfull ready money yeerly to be paid to be Issueing and goeing out for every yeare for ever of all my Lands and Tenements wheresoever lying upon y^e Denn of Barthlyden in the parish of Smarden to be taken by the churchwardens which for that time being. To be paid by me the said John my heiors or assigns at y^e Feast of y^e Pass-over Three Shillings and at y^e Feast of St. Michael y^e Archangel Three Shillings of good and lawfull Sterling ready money yearly to be paid to the Church of Smarden, and if it shall happen the aforesaid yearly rent to be behinde at any of the times and Termes aforesaid in part or in all, then it shall be lawfull for y^e Churchwardens of the Church aforesaid (which then shall be) with y^e p^rishoners of y^e sd Church, into all y^e aforesaid Lands for

y^e rent aforesaid then behinde, To Distreine, and the Distress or Distresses theire so found and taking to Lead and Deteine untill y^e sd Churchwardens and p'ishoners of y^e aforesaid rent be fully satisfied. AND hereupon when the Rops, Cords and Leather shall want to be repaired, the ancient Rops, Cords and Leather shall be delivered to me y^e sd John, my heiors and assigns and to remaine for ever, and if any of the aforesaid rent shall be remaining in Exspence, besids for y^e use of y^e aforesaid Bells, then to y^e use of the Light of the Altar of y^e Blessed Virgin Mary in the same Church to be Disposed, according to y^e Discretion of the p'ish, and I y^e sd John Hamden and my heiors, the aforesaid yearly rent with y^e appurtenances to the Churchwardens of y^e Church which for that time being, in forme aforesaid will warrant for ever. IN witness whereof to this my p'sent writting Indented Interchangably to one part have put, AND John at Pleine Churchwarden of the Church aforesaid on y^e other part in y^e name of the p'ish his seale hath put, at Smarden on Friday in the Feast of St. Stephen in y^e yeare of the reigne of Edward the third after y^e conquest of England y^e five and fortieth, and in the yeare of his reigne of France y^e two and Thirtieth: in the p'sence of these Witnesses William Euignden, Simon Chellingden, John Gylot, Thomas Watts, Roger Halynghurst, William Baker, and others.

This is a true coppie of that coppie which was taken out of y^e original Deede in English by Mr. Tho. Curtice.

The Deede was Dated y^e 26th of December in y^e 45th yeare of the reigne of Edward the third and in y^e yeare of our Lord 1371 (which should be 1367).

Entries in the parish records note the receipt of this small endowment, *e.g.* :

- | | | | | | |
|------|--|-------------|------|------------|--|
| 1719 | Received of Mr Greenhill for bell ropes, ending at
Easter | <i>oli.</i> | 6s. | <i>od.</i> | |
| 1796 | Received for 2 years Sess due in passing last account
for the Bell-rope field | <i>oli.</i> | 12s. | <i>od.</i> | |
| | The same time 4 old Bell ropes were sold for 7s.
11d., and the money paid to Thomas Londwell
(Ch. Warden) on behalf of the Parish. | | | | |
| 1798 | Sess for Bell rope field paid by Thomas Hinds ... | <i>oli.</i> | 6s. | <i>od.</i> | |

My informant adds that the last entry of payment occurs in 1811, so that it would seem that the endowment is lost. Probably it was considered too small to be worth collecting.

I am indebted for the above extracts to the Rev. F. Haslewood's books on the parish, from which my friend, the Rev. Cecil Deedes, has kindly copied them for me.

SMEETH.

ST. MARV.

1 Bell.

I., 32-in. *iوسفه hatch made me* 1603

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the stepill.

In 1758, three bells, one of them noted as "fallen"—which, is not stated. Treble remains; of the others II. had no inscription, III. had "Josephus Hatch me fecit 1620." The two were probably sold not long after.

The Rector states that "there were six good bells once." I think he must have been misinformed; I doubt if there were ever more than three. The two sold last century were sold by a churchwarden for funds to repair the roof, instead of making a rate. This was probably with the concurrence of Rector and Archdeacon; they were not particular in the middle of the eighteenth century.

Death knell rung. Tellers at commencement—3 strokes for man, 2 for woman. A daily morning peal at 8. This is, I think, the sole example in Kent.

SUNDAYS.—The bell is "simply rung for everything."

Rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to the Rev. C. H. Robertson.

SNARGATE.

ST. DUNSTAN.

3 Bells.

I., 30-in. ✠ *AVE · MARIA*

II., 30-in. *IOHN * HODSON * MADE * ME * 1673* ♣ ○ C H ○
○○○

♣ *RICHARD * HALL * CHVRCH * WARDEN * 1673* ○ ○ ○

III., 36-in. ✠ *SANCTE DUNSTANE*

T. R. E. Item in the steple iij bells and in the churche one worning bell
one hand bell and one sacryng bell.

For mention of the remarkable treble and tenor bells, see p. 9.

SNAVE.

ST. AUGUSTINE.

3 Bells.

I., 30-in. BENJAMIN STREETEN CHURCH WARDEN THO^S MEARS OF
LONDON FECIT 1795

II., 33-in. + STEPHANVS | NORTONE |
DE | KENT | ME | FECIT

III., 37-in. Same as No. 1.

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the stepull.

See p. 16 for mention of Stephen Norton, the founder of the middle bell. The cross, stop, and letters are all crowned.

The 8 o'clock ("Matins" bell) on Sunday mornings was rung here within living memory, but has been discontinued for many years.

SNODLAND.

ALL SAINTS.

5 Bells.

I., 29-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON
PRESENTED BY
REV J G CAREY RECTOR
EASTER 1873

II., 30½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON
THE GIFT OF W^M LEE ESQ HOLBOROUGH

III., 34-in. [☞] BY [☞] ME ○ GYLLES ○ RIVE ○ [☞] 1589

IV., 35-in. Same as No. 2.

V., 39-in. I W [♦] MADE [♦] ME 1636

Before the remodelling of the peal there were three bells only. Nos. 1 and 4 are additions, No. 2 replaces the old treble, which was by Anthony Bartlett, and dated 1654.

The bells are hung without wheels, so that they can only be chimed.

ST. JOHN EVANGELIST.

1 Bell.

Frame for six, but only one bell at present, by Gillett & Co., of Croydon; weight, 7 cwt.

SOUTHBOROUGH.

ST. PETER.

6 Bells.

A light peal, by Gillett and Co., of Croydon, replacing a single bell, dated 1830; the tenor bears the inscription:

In Memory of Stephen Hurt Langston MA
24 years Vicar of this parish.

Passing bell rung directly after death. Tellers— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman. At funeral, minute strokes till procession comes in sight, then more quickly until arrival at church.

SUNDAYS.—An early peal at 8. For services all six rung, "toll in" on tenor last five minutes.

Ringin on New Year's Eve.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. W. H. Chapman.

ST. THOMAS.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

CHRIST CHURCH.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

SOUTHFLEET.

ST. NICHOLAS.

6 Bells.

I., $29\frac{1}{2}$ -in. R: PHELPS FECIT 1705 (Rest of inscription defaced.)



II., 31-in. THE REV^D PETER RASHLEIGH MA RECTOR ROB^T FRENCH &
JOHN COLYER CHURCH WARDENS
THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1794

III., $32\frac{1}{2}$ -in. **WILHELMUS CARTER ME
FECIT 1610**

W ♦ C ♦ O ♦ P ♦ CHVRCHWARDENS □ (Fig. 42) 1610

IV., 35-in. R: P: FEC^T 1705

V., $38\frac{1}{2}$ -in. ✠ (Fig. 11)      Har In Conclau Gabriel Dunne

  Pange Suave ∇ (Fig. 6)

VI., 42-in. THE REV^D W^M GEEKIE D: D: RECT: IAMES BIGGS
WESTON GOWERS CH: WARDENS M: P: C: R: B:
RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1736
IOHN GARLAND SIDESMAN

No. 4 is in a very dilapidated condition, the cannons broken off, and an iron band shrunk on just below the shoulder, apparently to counteract the effects of a crack in the crown. See p. 27 for account of No. 5.

T. R. E. Item iiij bells of brasse suted in the steple and ij handbells of brasse.

“Registrum Roffense” is responsible for the following statement :

“On a brass plate fixed in the south wall of the belfry is this inscription :
Johannes Swan Magister Willielmus Swan et Ricardus Swan fratres ac Magister
Thomas Swan et Willielmus Swan nepotes dederunt ecclesie hanc campanam
maximam.”

SPELDHURST.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

- I., 29½-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1849
 - II., 31½-in. Same.
 - III., 33½-in. Same.
 - IV., 34-in. Same.
 - V., 39-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1812
 - VI., 42-in. C & G MEARS LONDON
1849
- THE TIME IS SHORT
WATCH AND PRAY
ALWAYS**

There were only four bells here until 1791, when the church was set on fire by lightning and the bells melted.

PASSING BELL.—Tenor for adults, 5th for those from fifteen to twenty-one, 3rd for children. Bells raised and rung for half an hour; end with tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female. Not rung before 8 a.m. or after sun-down as a rule.

FUNERALS.—Half an hour before funerals the tellers are given, and then the bell is tolled until the procession reaches the lich-gate. A dumb peal at a ringer's burial.

SUNDAYS.—From 14th February to 5th November bells are rung at 7, 8, 9, and 10 a.m. From 5th November to 14th February at the three later hours only. For services bells rung in changes for half an hour previously, then tenor tolled for last five minutes; and when the clock has struck, the treble bell is struck three times. Fifth or tenor rung after morning service to denote

another service. Tenor bell rung at 2 p.m., called "Sermon" bell, to show there will be sermon as well as service in afternoon.

Early morning peals on Easter Day, Christmas Day, and Whitsun Day. Ringing on Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve, and dedication festival. Also on royal birthdays.

A bell rung for vestries.

These uses are peculiar and interesting.

Very many thanks to the Rev. D. D. Mackinnon.

STALISFIELD.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

I., 27½-in. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1815

STANFORD.

ALL SAINTS.

1 Bell.

I., 25-in. IOHN WILNAR MADE ME 1631

T. R. E. Item ij bellys in the steppyll.

Mem : Stolen . . . a hande bell.

In 1758 two bells, of which the present one was the larger. The other bore, according to Mr. Faussett,

William (? Willelmus) Revell me fecit.

Death knell as soon as notice received. Tellers—man 3 × 3, woman 3 × 2, child 3 × 1.

Thanks to Rector, Rev. J. Williamson.

STANSTED.

ST. MARY.

3 Bells.

I., 27-in. ✠ (Fig. 14) Iohannis & Dnomen Evis ∇ (Fig. 13)

II., 29-in. Cast by John Warner and Sons London 1882.

III., 33-in. william hatch made me T S C W Ⓢ 1656

Account of treble at p. 31.

STAPLE.

ST. JAMES.

4 Bells.

I., 33-in. IOHN ○ HODSON ○ MADE ○ ME ○ 1680 ○

RICHARD ○ TERRY ○ WILLIAM ○ WOODWAR ○

CHVRCH ○ W ○ S ○

II., 34½-in. Same.

III., 37½-in. ✠ (Fig. 5) *Sit Domini Benedictum* ✠ (Fig. 20)
 ∪ (Fig. 19)

IV., 41-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1623

For account of 3rd bell, see p. 36.

Death knell rung either on morning of death or following morning. Tellers
 —3 × 3 for a male, 3 × 2 for a female.

Bells rung before burial, and as body is borne to the grave.

SUNDAY SERVICES.—Ring or chime fifteen minutes, then a single bell ten minutes, and another for last five. Formerly a bell was rung at 9 a.m. to give notice of Holy Communion after Matins.

Ringin on New Year's Eve.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. R. F. Blake.

STAPLEHURST.

ALL SAINTS.

8 Bells.

- I., 29-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON
 PRAISE TO GOD THE ETERNAL FATHER
 G. F. REYNER STP RECTOR 1885
- II., 30½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON
 PRAISE TO GOD THE ETERNAL SON
 J H C MCGILL MA CURATE 1885
- III., 32½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON
 PRAISE TO GOD THE ETERNAL SPIRIT
 JOHN NUNN
 WILLIAM WICKINGS } CHURCHWARDENS 1885
- IV., 35-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1885
 GOD BLESS THE CHURCH
 THIS BELL IS IN PLACE OF ONE CAST IN 1748
- V., 37½-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1885
 GOD BLESS THE QUEEN
 THIS BELL IS IN PLACE OF ONE CAST IN 1663
- VI., 40-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1885
 GOD BLESS STAPLEHURST
 THIS BELL IS IN PLACE OF ONE CAST IN 1594
- VII., 44-in. HENRY TVRNER CW WILLIAM WOLLESS CW ☉
 1605 IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME
 T S

VIII., 48½-in. THISTENOR WHICH IS IN PLACE OF ONE CAST IN
1649 AND THE 6TH 5TH 4TH 3RD 2ND & TREBLE BELIS
WERE CAST BY MEARS & STAINBANK IN 1885
DONA DEI DEO.

The former ring was of five only, the No. 4 of which is the present No. 7.
The inscriptions, etc., on the others, were as follow :

- I., 34-in. JAMES LOVE THOMAS BARTEN CH : WARDENS 1748
T : LESTER OF LONDON MADE ME
- II., 37-in. william hatch made me 1663
- III., 41-in. Robertus + (Not + me + fecit 1594 ☉
- V., 49½-in. IOH HVIVS SOIVS AT CHRISTI SALVS HEYRICVS
KEWT RECTOR THOMAS SCOONE RICHARD
FRANCES WARDENES IOH PALMAR MADE
M S MEE 1649

The weights of the new ring are as follow :

	Cwt. qr. lb.		
I.	5	3	19
II.	6	2	13
III.	7	0	6
IV.	8	2	6
V.	9	1	27
VI.	12	1	18
VII.	15	2	8
Tenor.	21	2	13 — Note, E b.

They were solemnly dedicated to God's service on St. Mark's Day, 1885, at a special service for that purpose, the following account of which is taken from the *Guardian* :

"The first service in the belfry was conducted by the Bishop of Hereford, formerly Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, the rectory of Staplehurst being in the patronage of that society. This consisted of a few prayers and a formal admission of the members of the Ringers' Guild, sixteen in number. The Bishop likewise gave a brief and practical address to them at 3 p.m. The Bishop read in the belfry the prayers which formally dedicated the new peal. Immediately after the prayers the bells were rung. At 3.30 the general service was commenced with the Old Hundredth as a processional. The service

being ended, a short peal ensued, which was followed by a special hymn. The Bishop preached from Exodus xxxix. 43."

Passing bell tolled immediately after death; half-minute strokes on 7th bell.

ON DAY OF BURIAL.—"Funeral knell" at 7 a.m. Commence with tellers—3 strokes for a male, 2 for a female; then toll for an hour, half-minute strokes. Before funeral, "minute bell" tolled for an hour, quickening as procession nears church, and again whilst the body is being carried to the grave.

SUNDAYS.—Second and third bells chimed at 8 a.m. ("Matins bell"), and again at 1 p.m. Bells chimed or rung for half an hour before services.

Peals on Christmas Day and New Year's Eve, also on Queen's birthday and festival of the local benefit society (4th June).

Bell (7th) rung for Easter Vestry.

The curfew was rung here (on old 4th, present 7th) up till about forty years ago.

Very many thanks to the Rev. J. H. C. McGill.

STELLING.

ST. MARY.

3 Bells.

I., 26½-in. Blank.

II., 30-in. + *Vox Augustini Sonet In Aure Dei* ∇

III., 34½-in. + *Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis* ∇

See p. 31 for account of the two larger bells. The treble is rather a puzzle—it has ornamented cannons, and is rather longer in the waist than the other two. Casting rather rough. Possibly the oldest of the three. The crosses on Nos. 2 and 3 are Fig. 14; the foundry stamp Fig. 13.

The whole three, so far as frame and fittings are concerned, are in a disgraceful state of repair. They have not been *rung* for years; and I am really in doubt, as regards the two larger, whether it is quite safe even to *chime* them. It is a thousand pities to see an untouched mediæval peal no better cared for.

Death knell rung as soon as clerk has notice. Commence with tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female—then toll for half an hour. This is generally (but not invariably) repeated at 8 a.m. on day of funeral; otherwise the bells are only used to chime to service.

STOCKBURY.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

5 Bells.

- I., 30-in. IOHN WILNAR 1634
 II., 31½-in. Same.
 III., 36 in. IOHN WILNAR MADE ME 1634
 IV., 38½-in. Same.
 V., 42½-in. I ♀ W 1635

In 1456, Reginald atte Pette of this parish bequeathed towards a new bell called trebyll vjs. viij*z*. (“Testamenta Vetusta,” p. 286).

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received, but not after sunset. Tenor bell used for adults, 4th for those between twelve and twenty, 3rd for children under twelve. Tellers, 3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.

Minute bell on day of funeral. Same bell used as for passing bell.

Bells usually chimed, but occasionally rung for services.

Peals formerly on loyal anniversaries, but discontinued “on the abolition of church rates,” *i.e.*, when local funds ceased to afford a tip to the ringers.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. T. Cobb.

STODMARSH.

ST. MARY.

2 Bells.

- I., 24-in. + ANELP EICARS ATRAM
 SQA
 II., 25½-in. A BOVE ALL THINGS LOVE GOD

The smaller bell is a curious specimen of early bell-founding, the lettering being placed *on* the shoulder angle. It is probably earlier than 1300 (see p. 8).

The larger bell is probably of Elizabethan date.

STOKE AT HOO.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

3 Bells.

- I., 28-in. THE REVND A : E : O : HARIS VICAR. TAYLOR &
 C^O LOUGHBOROUGH
 W : S : MEERS R^D ALLEN CHURCHWARDENS 1861
 II., 29½-in. William Hatch made me T B T S C W 1641
 III., 32-in. ♀ ○ ○ ○ G ○ R ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ♀ 1589

Death knell rung as soon as possible. Tellers, 3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.

Bell tolled before funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Bells chimed for services. Ring in on tenor last five minutes.
Treble rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. A. E. O. Harris.

STONE BY DARTFORD. ST. MARY. 2 Bells.

I., 27½-in. THE GIFT OF HENRY DRAPER 1691 THOMAS ELLIOT THOMAS
COLYER CHURCH WARDENS RECAST THE REV^D THOMAS
HEATHCOTE RECTOR WILLIAM NETLEINGHAM JOHN SHARP
CHURCH WARDENS 1806 T: MEARS & SON OF LONDON
FECIT

II., 31-in. JOHN & CHRISTOPHER HODSON MADE ME 1676 NICHOLAS
TOOKE CHURCH WARDENS RECAST THE REV^D THOMAS
HEATHCOTE RECTOR WILLIAM NETLEINGHAM JOHN SHARP
CHURCH WARDENS 1806 T MEARS & SON OF LONDON
FECIT

T. R. E. Item iij bells in the steple suted of brasse a saints bell of brasse
and two sacryng bells of brasse.

There were five bells in Hasted's time, but (in 1805?) the spire was burnt
and the bells melted.

Passing bell rung as soon as possible after death.

A bell tolled at funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Bells rung for service only.

Ringin on New Year's Eve.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. F. W. Murray.

GREEN STREET GREEN CHAPEL. 1 Bell.

Doubtless a small modern tinkler.

NEW BRENT CHAPEL. 1 Bell.

Doubtless same as last.

STONE IN OXNEY. ST. MARY. 6 Bells.

I., 28½-in. MESS^{RS} SION ROFE & JN^O MILSTED CH. WARDENS W & T
MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1788

II., 29-in. MESS^{RS} JO^N MILSTED & SION ROW CH. WARDENS W^M MEARS
OF LONDON FECIT 1786

- III., 30½-in. + (Fig. 14) **Wox Agustinii Sonet In Abre Dei**
 ✠ (Fig. 18) ∇ (Fig. 17)
 IV., 33½-in. JOHN MILSTED & STEPHEN SAMSON CHURCH WARDENS THO^s
 MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1795
 V., 37-in. SIHON ROSE & Jⁿ^o MILSTED CH: WARDENS
 W & T MEARS LATE LESTER PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
 FECIT 1787
 VI., 42-in. SIHON ROSE Jⁿ^o MILSTED CH: WARDENS W & T MEARS
 LATE LESTER PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1787

For account of 3rd bell, see p. 33.

T. R. E. Item v bells in the steple one over the chancel and ij hand bells.

The "one over the chancel" was of course the Sanctus bell. The hole in the beam over the chancel arch (through which the rope passed) still remains.

Parish records state the treble to have been recast in 1720. This was, probably, the present second.

STOURMOUTH.

ALL SAINTS.

3 Bells.

- I., 25½-in. **iosep^h hatch made me T** 1638
 II., 27-in. Same. 1605
 III., 30½-in. **WILLIAM CARTER MADE**
ME 1615

Passing bell rung as soon as possible. Tellers—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman.

Bells chimed on Sundays for services only.

Ringing on Christmas Day and New Year's Eve; also on 5th November.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. W. J. Smallwood.

STOWTING.

ST. MARY.

4 Bells.

- I., 25-in. WILL. ANSELL S K 1721
 II., 25-in. + **W M P**
 III., 28-in. S ∇ K I ∇ W FECIT 1721
 IV., 30-in. IOHN ANSELL RECTOR S K 1721

For mention of No. 2, see p. 42.

The Sanctus bell-cote at east end of nave still remains, but tenantless now; the bell, however, was there within living memory.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Tellers— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman.

On day of burial, a bell tolled in the morning and again at time of funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Tenor bell rung at 8 a.m. ("Matins" bell). For services, all four bells are chimed.

Ringing on New Year's Eve.

According to the parochial records, new bell-ropes were purchased almost annually here, as in many other places in the county, so long as church rates existed. The old ones were the perquisites of the outgoing churchwardens, being very useful (especially when not too much worn) for plough-traces, etc. The following agreement for recasting the three old bells into four, in 1721, is copied from the original, preserved in the parish chest :

Articles of Agreement indented made and concluded on the seventeenth day of May in the seventh yeare of the raigne of our so^{veraign} Lord George by the grace of God now King of Greate britain etc Anno^q, dni 1721 Betweene William ffukes Churchwarden of the parish Church of Stowting in the county of Kent of the one parte and Job Potter of Leeds in the county aforesaid Carpenter of the other parte as followeth—viz.

Inp^{ris} Whereas there is belonging to the said Church in Stowting now but three old bells it is covenanted granted concluded & mutually agreed by & betweene the said parties that the said Job Potter His executors admo^{rs} or assignes shall & will cast or cause to be cast the said three old bells and make of them four good tunable new bells But if in case at the time when the new bells shall be weigd to the said Churchwarden the four new bells if the waite of them be more then the three old was when waidd that then the said William ffukes his successors or assignes shall pay or cause to be paid unto the said Job Potter his heires or assignes the sum of thirteen pence per pound for ev^{ry} pound waite that shall be more then the old bells waidd soe that there be not exceeded in waite above one halfe hundred waite more but if in case the four new bells shall be in waite less then the three old was then the said Job Potter his heires or assignes shall pay or cause to be paid unto the said William ffukes or his successars the sum of twelve pence per pound for ev^{ry} pound as shall be in waite wanting of the waite of the old bells.

Item the said Job Potter doth for himselfe his heires or assignes covenant promise & agree to & with the said W^m ffukes his heires & assignes That he the said Job Potter his heires & assignes shall & will make a good sufficient new frame to place the said new bells in & to find all Iron worke stocks &

wheelles & evey thing thereunto belonging (he or they haveing all the old worke thereunto belonging) The ropes & the Carriage of the old bells to Hythe And fetching of the new bells to Stowting Church when new cast which the said W^m ffukes or his successars is to be at the charge of only excepted And further that if in case the said parishioners shall judge or find any of the bells not tunable when rung then they being at the charge of the carriage as aforesaid the same shall be new cast and made tunable.

Itm that the said new bells shall be cast And that all the worke shall be done and finished strong and substanshally within three months time next ensuing after the date hereof fitt to be rung.

Itm that the said William ffukes for inconsideracon of the þmisses doth for himselfe and his successars covenant promise & agree to and with the said Job Potter his heires & assignes That he the said William ffukes or his successars shall and will well & truely pay or cause to be paid therefore unto the said Job Potter his heires or assignes the full & just sume of five & thirty pounds of Lawfull money of Greate britain in mañer & forme following (that is to say) seventeen pounds & tenn shillings pt thereof on the day the said bells shall be first rung And seventeen pounds & tenn shillings residue thereof on that Twelvemonths next ensuing thereof without any fraud or further delay in either of the said payments And for the true performance of all & evey of the abovementened covenants Articles & agreements either of the said parties bindeth themselves unto the other firmly by these þsents In witness wherof the said þties first above named to this þsent Articles of Agreement their hands & seales have hereunto interchangably sett.

Dated the day & yeare first above written.

Sealed & delivered &c in the p'sence of

Patience Gibson

———— Gibson

William fuke (LS)

Job Potter (LS)

This is very interesting. Job Potter was clearly a bell-hanger, and probably local agent for Samuel Knight, of London, and the bells were cast by John Waylett, at Hythe. The inscriptions also tell us that Mr. John Waylett did not recast all the bells; the present No. 2 was doubtless the treble of the old ring of three.

This No. 2 is rather a puzzle. It is a question whether the initials are P W or W P. If we reckon the + as commencing the inscription, as was most usual, it would be the latter (see p. 42).

Very hearty thanks to the Rector, the Rev. A. Upton, who has kindly looked through the parish records for me, but found nothing of interest but the above. It speaks well for the excellence of the work done in 1721, that beyond petty repairs bells and bell-frame have wanted nothing done to them till within the last year or two, when they have been re-hung.

STROOD. ST. NICHOLAS. 3 (formerly 6) Bells.

I., 30-in. W A W C W B S B G B W P 1765

II., 32-in. WM MUMFORD WM BENNETT CHURCHWARDENS
JOHN WARNER FOUNDER OF LONDON 1788

III., 36-in. Same.

T. R. E. Item iiij belles in the Stepill.

Item a lytill sanctus Bell.

Death knell rung immediately after death. Tellers— 3×3 for man, 3×2 for woman ; for boy 2×3 , for girl 2×2 —then ring treble for about twenty minutes.

A bell tolled for fifteen minutes before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—All three chimed at 8 a.m. ("Matins" peal), and for services.

Ringing on New Year's Eve.

It is traditional custom here for a new vicar to "ring himself in."

Formerly six bells ; the other three (being cracked) were sold about fifty years ago, the proceeds being mainly appropriated to the purchase of a new clock.

Best thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. C. H. Banning.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

STURRY. ST. NICHOLAS. 5 Bells.

I., 28½-in. ioseph hatch made me 1622

II., 30-in. THE REV^D W^M CHAFY VICAR THO^S WOTTON THO^S CROUCH
CH. WARDENS THO^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1802

III., 34-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT 1622

IV., 37-in. Same.

V., 40-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1856

REV^D CHARLES WHARTON VICAR

THO^S RAMMELL }
WILLIAM BOCKWELL } CHURCH WARDENS

In 1758, No. 2 was by Richard Phelps (dated 1710) and the tenor by Joseph Hatch (1622).

Passing bell tolled (as soon as notice received) for about half an hour. Apparently no tellers.

On day of burial, a half-hour's knell at 7 a.m., and again before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Chime twenty minutes for service, then toll for ten minutes.

Sermon bell discontinued.

Peals on Church festivals in the early morning, and on New Year's Eve.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. P. B. Collings.

SUNDRIDGE.

DEDICATION UNKNOWN.

5, and a Sanctus Bell.

I., 31½-in. ○ ○ CHRISTOPHER * HODSON * MADE * MEE *
1683 ○ ○

* ESLY * CRANWELL * CHVRCH * W * IOHN *
LYNN *

II., 33-in. ♣ THIS ♠ BELL ♠ WAS ♠ RAISED ♠ BY ♠ THE ♠ PARISH
ONERS ♠ OF SVNDRISH ♠ ○

♣ WITH ♠ THE ♠ ASSISTANCE ♠ OF ♠ THEIRE
FFREINDS ♠ 1666 ♠ IH ♠ NC ♠ SSR ○

♣ WO ♠ WC ♠ IH ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ ○ WH ○

III., 34½-in. ♣ IH ♠ NC ♠ SSR ♠ WO ♠ WC ♣ ○ WH ○ ♣
IOHN ♠ HODSON ♠ MADE ♠ ME ♠ 1666 ♣

IV., 38-in. THOMAS BARTLET MADE ME 1619 ☉

V., 44-in. SAMUEL WELLAR RECTOR IOHN LANCASTER IOHN EVERST
CHURCH WARDENS ✧ S K ✧ 1737

Sanctus 12½ in. Blank.

The Rector, in kindly replying to my queries, states "none recast." Messrs. Gillett and Co., of Croydon, however, claim to have recast the tenor. As a Churchman, I am bound to give clerical assertion preference to lay, and so I leave the inscriptions above unaltered, merely noting here the difference of opinion.

Passing bell rung. Tellers—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman.

SUNDAYS.—Bells chimed at 8 a.m.—a doubtful case of survival, as it seems to be a peal in lieu of the sermon bell, formerly rung at this hour. Bells chimed for services, excepting on great festivals, when they are rung.

Peals on great festivals, New Year's Eve, and Queen's birthday.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

The sanctus bell is unused.

Best thanks to the Rev. Egerton D. Hammond.

SUTTON BY DOVER. SS. PETER AND PAUL. 1 Bell.

I., 23½-in. Blank.

A "long-waisted" bell.

SUTTON (EAST). SS. PETER AND PAUL. 6 Bells.

I., 27-in. PRAISE THE LORD 1720

II., 28½-in. THESE 5 BELLS WERE NEW CAST AT THE CHARGE OF YE PARISH
BY IOHN WAYLETT 1719

III., 29-in. IOHN EARLES & IAMES WATERMAN CHVRCH WARDENS 1719

IV., 30½-in. EDWARD FILMER ES^O 1719

V., 31-in. S^R ROBERT FILMER BART^T 1719

VI., 37-in. S^R EDWARD FILMER K^T 1614 NEW CAST BY S
KNIGHT 1723

SUTTON AT HONE. ST. JOHN BAPTIST. 3 Bells.

I., 27½-in. Blank.

II., 32½-in. THO HARRIS CHVRCH WARDEN 1727

III., 35-in. G. MEARS & C^O FOUNDERS LONDON 1862

T. R. E. Item iij bells suted in the steple and a dollyng bell iij sacryng
bells in the Quere.

Before its recasting in 1862 the tenor bell was inscribed as follows :

+ TEMPORA : EVLGVRA : DOM :
PVLSO : CESSO : MARIA

See p. 15.

SUTTON VALENCE. ST. MARY. 1 Bell.

I., 32-in. ED^W WELDISH IOHN SHIRLY CH : WARDENS R :
PHELPS MADE ME 1732

SWALECLIFFE. ST. JOHN BAPTIST. 1 Bell.

I., 20-in. Blank.

SWANLEY.

ST. PAUL.

3 Bells.

- I., 28-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1860
 II., 30-in. }
 III., 32-in. } MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1867

Passing bell rung. Tellers—three strokes for a man, two for a woman.

SUNDAYS.—Bells used for services only.

Ringing on New Year's Eve.

Best thanks to Rev. M. S. Edgell, Vicar.

SWANSCOMBE.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

6 Bells.

- I., 30½-in. THE GIFT OF SAMUEL CHILD ESQ^R ROBERT
 CATLIN FECIT 1751
 II., 32½-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1804
 III., 35-in. HEALTH AND PROSPERITY TO ALL OUR BENE-
 FACTORS R^T CATLIN FECIT 1751
 IV., 37-in. RICH^D FORREST & J^NO BAYLY CH. WARDENS LESTER &
 PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1769
 V., 40½-in. WILLIAM BRIGHT JOHN SMALL CHURCH WARDENS R. CAT-
 LIN FECIT 1751
 VI., 43½-in. SAMUEL BAYLY & EDWARD MASON CHURCH WARDENS
 THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1802

T. R. E. Item iij bells of brasse suted in the steeple.

Item j corse bell of brasse.

The old "Matins" bell at 8 a.m. on Sunday mornings has been discontinued within memory.

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Tenor bell for adults, a smaller one for children. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female—both at beginning and end.

Not repeated on day of burial, but bell simply tolled before the funeral.

Bells chimed or rung for services, usually the latter, as there is a good body of ringers in union with the Diocesan Association.

Best thanks to Mr. T. Coombes.

SWANSCOMBE.

ALL SAINTS.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

Inscriptions.

425

SWINGFIELD.

ST. PETER.

1 Bell.

I., -in. IOHN RICHARDS W 1696 BY ME I W

T. R. E. iij bells . . . ij little bells.

In 1758 there were three bells; the other two, which were the smaller ones of the ring, were inscribed: IW. IR. 1696. They were clearly all three from the same founder—John Wood, of Bishopsgate, London (see p. 91).

SYDENHAM.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW.

1 Bell.

I., 36-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1832

ST. PHILIP.

1 Bell.

Church consecrated 1866, has probably one bell of about that date.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

Consecrated 1866. Presumably one bell of that date.

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

1 Bell.

I., 22-in. Blank.

CHRIST CHURCH.

1 Bell.

I., 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON

An obliterated inscription on waist. Probably a second-hand bell.

ST. MATTHEW.

8 Bells.

A set of eight hemispherical bells, largest weighing 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. They are by Mears and Stainbank.

ST. GEORGE (PERRY HILL).

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

TENTERDEN.

ST. MILDRED.

8 Bells and Sanctus Bell.

Sanctus, 15-in. Blank.

I., 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. BY VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION 1769 NON NOBIS SOLUM SED
POSTERIS LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT

- II., 34-in. BELL OF 1769 NON NOBIS SOLUM SED POSTERIS
 RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON
 1884
 S C LEPARD VICAR
 C E BAKER }
 H A PRATT } CHURCHWARDENS
- III., 36½-in. THOMAS LESTER MADE ME 1751
- IV., 40½-in. JOHN BEXHILL THO^s PAINE CHURCH WARDENS PACK &
 CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1774
- V., 44-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1826
- VI., 46-in. RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS 1884
- VII., 51-in. Same.
- VIII., 56-in. BELL OF 1717 RECAST BY JOHN WARNER &
 SONS 1884
 (Vicar's and Churchwardens' names as on No. 2.)

The old Nos. 2 and 7 were by Pack and Chapman; No. 6 was by Lester, Pack, and Chapman, dated 1769, the same as No. 2; No. 7 was dated 1774; the old tenor was by Richard Phelps. These all commemorated churchwardens, and the tenor the vicar of the day as well.

Richard Berne, of Canterbury, by his will, dated 28 April, 1461, bequeathed to the building of the new bell-tower of Tenterden vjs. viij*z*. ("Testamenta Vetusta," p. 292).

DEATH KNELL.—Commence with tellers—three strokes on each of three bells for a man, two on each of three for a woman, three on each of two for a boy, two on each of two for a girl—then tenor bell is tolled.

SUNDAYS.—Used for services only. Chime all eight for twenty minutes, toll tenor for ten minutes, finish on sanctus ("Parson's") bell.

A bell rung for vestry meetings.

The sanctus (or more properly Priest's) bell is at east end of nave, and *may* be ancient, but I rather deem it a seventeenth century production.

Very many thanks to Vicar, the Rev. S. Campbell Lepard.

TENTERDEN.

ST. MICHAEL.

1 Bell.

One bell, by Gillett and Co., of Croydon, weight about 8 cwt., dated 1884. Apparently no "local uses."

Thanks to Vicar, Rev. W. M. C. Clarke.

TESTON.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

3 Bells.

- I., 25½-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1832
 II., 29-in. Same.
 III., 33-in. RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1875
 T. R. E. Imprimis in the steple three belles.

TEYNHAM.

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

6 Bells.

- I., 28-in. R C 1743
 II., 30½-in. Inscription defaced.
 III., 31-in. R C 1743
 IV., 32½-in. ROBERT CATLIN CAST & HUNG US ALL 1743
 V., 36-in. PROSPERITY TO THE PARISH OF TINHAM R^T CATLIN FECIT 1743
 VI., 39½-in. THE REV^D M^R IOHN SWINTON VICAR ISAAC KEMP RICHARD
 HUBBARD CHURCH WARDENS R C 1743

Passing bell rung as soon after death as possible. Tenor used for adults, fourth for children. Begin with tellers —3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female—then toll for ten minutes, raise bell and ring five minutes, lower and repeat “tellers.”

This is repeated at 8 a.m. on day of funeral, omitting the ten minutes’ tolling.

Bells chimed (occasionally rung) for services.

Ringin on Easter Day, Christmas Eve, Whitsun Day, and New Year’s Eve. Also on Queen’s Birthday, Accession, and Coronation, and on 29th May, and 5th November.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. E. J. Corbould.

THANINGTON.

ST. NICHOLAS.

3 Bells.

- I., 27-in. ioseph hatch made me ⑤ 1624
 II., 30-in. GEORGE HOOPER ARTER RVCK WARDENS IOHN
 PALMAR MADE THIS BELL 1638
 III., 32-in. ioseph hatch made me ⑤ 1623

Passing bell rung immediately upon notice of death being received.

A bell tolled at funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Bells rung for half an hour before services. “Ring in” on treble for last five minutes.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Rev. W. H. Holman, Vicar.

THROWLEY.

ST. MICHAEL.

6 Bells.

I., 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. THE GIFT OF JOHN MONTRESOR ESQ^R OF BELMONT IN THROW-
LEY 1780 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT

II., 31-in. Same.

III., 33-in. Same.

IV., 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. Same.

V., 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. Same.

VI., 42-in. Same.

Information as to local uses unattainable. The Vicar has apparently no sympathy with any antiquarian work but his own.

THURNHAM.

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

3 (formerly 4) Bells.

I., 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. Blank.

II., 32-in. Blank.

III., 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. HENRICUS \diamond BROCKHILL \diamond GENEVRVS \diamond ANO \diamond 1586 \odot

All three bells in bad order—one unused, and two reported to be cracked—but I think a judicious overhauling would prove this not to be the case with more than one, if that.

The two smaller bells are probably seventeenth century work. The tenor is by Lawrence Wright of London (see p. 62), and is, I think, the only specimen of his workmanship now existing.

Apparently no local uses.

Best thanks to Vicar, Rev. G. C. Master.

TILMANSTONE.

ST. ANDREW.

1 Bell.

I., 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. T MEARS OF LONDON 1816

In 1758, "1 small bell without inscription."

Apparently no local uses.

Thanks to Vicar, Rev. J. H. Jaquet.

TONBRIDGE.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

8 Bells and Sanctus.

I., 29-in. I MEAN TO MAKE IT UNDERSTOOD. THAT THO' I'M LITTLE
YET AM GOOD

II., 31-in. IF YOU HAVE A JUDICIOUS EAR. YOU'LL OWN MY VOICE IS
SWEET & CLEAR.

- III., 32½-in. TO HONOUR BOTH OF GOD & KING OUR VOICES SHALL IN
CONSORT RING
- IV., 34½-in. WHILST THUS WE JOIN IN CHEARFUL SOUND. MAY LOVE &
LOYALTY ABOUND
- V., 37½-in. MUSICK IS MEDICINE TO THE MIND
- VI., 40-in. YE PEOPLE ALL WHO HEAR ME RING BE FAITHFULL TO YOUR
GOD & KING
- VII., 43½-in. YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE YOUR HEALTH & HAPPINESS
BE SOBER MERRY WISE & YOU'LL THE SAME POSSESS
All the above have in addition : PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
FECIT 1774
- VIII., 51-in. REV^D HENRY HARPUR VICAR · JOHN MUGRIDGE
& W · MARTIN CHURCHWARDENS 1774
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
- Sanctus, 13¼-in. Blank.

ST. STEPHEN.

3 Bells.

- I., 18-in. J TAYLOR & C^O FOUNDERS 1879
- II., 22-in. Same.
- III., 29-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1852

Death knell rung as soon as notice received. Commence with tellers (abnormal)—3 × 3 for a man, 3-2-3 for a woman, 3 × 2 for a child; then toll for half an hour. Not repeated on day of burial; only a bell tolled for half an hour before the service.

ST. SAVIOUR.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

TONBRIDGE WELLS. CHRIST CHURCH.

1 Bell.

- I., 29-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1840

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

- I., 24-in. W GILBERT 1829

KING CHARLES THE MARTYR (?).

1 Bell.

- I., 19¼-in. W. GILBERT 1821

TONBRIDGE WELLS. ST. JAMES. 1 Bell.
I., 42-in. G. MEARS & C^o FOUNDERS LONDON 1863

ST. JOHN. 1 Bell.
I., 29½-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1857

ST. PETER. 6 Bells.
A ring of six, by Warner and Sons, London. The five largest are dated 1876; the treble was added in 1878. Tenor measures 41 inches, and weighs close upon 12 cwt.

ST. STEPHEN. 1 Bell.
Presumably one modern bell.

TONGE. ST. GILES. 3 Bells.
I., 24-in. CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1784
II., 28-in. Blank.
III., 31-in. IOHN WILNER 1626

TROTTISCLIFFE. ST. PETER. 1 Bell.
I., 31-in. WILLIAM HATCH MADE ME I G I D C W O 1639

TUDELEY. ALL SAINTS. 3 Bells.
I., 26-in. THO^s MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1795
II., 27-in. W & T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1788
III., 31-in. PETER PEARSON CH : WARDEN : PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
FECIT 1774

TUNSTALL. ST. JOHN BAPTIST. 6 Bells.
I., 27-in. + Benedicite omnia opera Domini Domino +
mdcccxliii +
II., 28-in. + Laudate Dominum in cymbalis bene sonantibus +
mdcccxliii
III., 30-in. + Laudate Dominum in cymbalis iubilationis +
mdcccxliii
IV., 32-in. + Omnis spiritus laudet Dominum + mdcccxliii

- V., 35-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1843
 SANCT · SANCT · SANCT ·
 DNUS DEUS SABAOOTH
- VI., 37-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1843
 MORTUI RESURGENT IN NOMINE DEI AMEN
 WILL. HOWLEY ARCHEP · CANTUAR
 GEORGIO BRIDGES MOORE RECT
 GEORGIO BAKER PAROCH^{VS}
 AD MDCCCXLIH

These six replace a ring of five which were inscribed as follows :

- I. Robertus Mot me fecit 1596
 II. Same. 1600
 III. R. Phelps fecit 1702
 IV. Praise ye the Lord 1573 ∪
 V. John Wilnar made me 1630

Apparently no local customs. Many thanks to Miss Moore.

For service, treble bell rung the last five minutes, tenor tolling ten minutes previously.

ULCOMBE.

ALL SAINTS.

6 Bells.

- I., 28½-in. THE FOUNDER HE HAS PLAY'D HIS PART : WICH SHEW'S HIM
 MASTER OF HIS ART
 SO HANG ME WELL AND RING ME TRUE AND I WILL SOUND
 YOUR PRAISES DUE
 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1757
- II., 30-in. ~~ioseph hatch~~ made me W H ☉ 1632
- III., 33-in. Same.
- IV., 35-in. Same.
- V., 38-in. WILLIAM HATCH MADE ME C P R N C W ☉ 1640
- VI., 42½-in. THE REV^D W^M BELL : RECTOR : GEO^F MERRIAM & JA^S HOPE : CH :
 WARDENS 1757 LESTER AND PACK FECIT

UNDER RIVER.

ST. MARGARET.

2 Bells.

Two small modern bells of no interest, and only used to ring to service.

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. John H. Hardy.

UPCHURCH.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

- I., 29-in. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1866
 II., 30½-in. JOHN WILMAR 1637
 III., 31½-in. IOHN ♦ WILMAR ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1632
 IV., 34-in. Same.
 V., 37½-in. G. MEARS & CO FOUNDERS LONDON 1862
 REV^D JOHN WOODRUFF VICAR
 W^M SOLOMON CHURCHWARDEN
 VI., 40½-in. Same.

UPNOR.

SS. PHILIP AND JAMES.

1 Bell.

Church built 1874 ; has one small bell of that date.

Death knell rung immediately. Three strokes for man, two for woman, one for child ; repeated for a quarter of an hour.

Bell tolled at funerals.

Rung for services.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. Dr. Bailey.

WALDERSHARE.

ALL SAINTS.

1 Bell.

I. 1832

Inaccessible for measurement.

Mr. Bryan Faussett notes here : "One Small Bell, the Gift of Lady Arabella Furnese in y^e year 1714 at or soon after her Marriage."

WALMER.

ST. MARY.

2 Bells.

- I., 25½-in. ioseph hatcher made me 1635
 II., 27-in. Blank.

There is an "alarm" bell at Walmer Castle which bears date 1662, and the royal initials, C. R. Its diameter is 22 inches.

ST. SAVIOUR.

1 Bell.

Bell inaccessible, but certainly modern.

WALTHAM.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW.

4 Bells.

- I., 30-in. *ioſeph hatch made me* 1631
 II., 31½-in. Same. ☉ 1631
 III., 34-in. Same. ▽ (Fig. 41) 1602
 IV., 37-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1631

The 3rd bell, which is by Joseph Hatch, bears *Thomas Hatch's* foundry-stamp, and is therefore probably his earliest production. There are two bells at Egerton, similarly dated 1602, but they have Joseph's own circular stamp.

WARDEN IN SHEPPEY. ST. JAMES.

I., 24-in. Blank.

Now lying in the belfry at Minster. It is locally believed to be by Joseph Hatch, and cast about 1602.

Church and burial ground washed away by the sea.

WAREHORNE.

ST. MATTHEW.

5 Bells.

- I., 30-in. IOHN WAYLETT MADE ME 1721
 II., 31½-in. Same.
 III., 32½-in. IOHN WAYLET MADE ME 1721
 IV., 36½-in. IOHN WAYLETT MADE ME 1723
 V., 39-in. THOMAS HODGES WILL— BVTCHER C W 1721

T. R. E. Item fower bells in the Steple.

Item a saunce bell and a hande bell.

Passing bell rung in the evening if death occurs before 12, otherwise at 7 the next morning. Toll for half an hour; finish with tellers—3 × 3 for a male, 3 × 2 for a female.

Bell tolled for half an hour at funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Peals at 8 a.m. and at noon. For services, bells chimed half an hour.

Ringings on New Year's Eve and on Benefit Club days.

Best thanks to the Rev. T. R. Mayhew, Rector.

WATERINGBURY.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

6 Bells.

- I., 24-in. G MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1859
 THE REV^D HY STEVENS VICAR
 J B JUDE
 E J GOODWIN } CHURCHWARDENS
 R JUDE
 H ALLWORK } OVERSEERS
- II., 26½-in. Same.
 III., 28½-in. Same.
 IV., 31-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1831
 V., 33-in. Same.
 VI., 36-in. Same.

Steeple destroyed by fire last winter ; the bell frame charred and tenor bell cracked. It is now (September, 1886) in London being recast.

WELLING. See Beckenham.**WESTBERE.**

ALL SAINTS.

3 Bells.

- I., 20-in. }
 II., 21-in. } C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1853
 III., 22-in. }

In 1758 : " 2 small bells without inscription."

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Age and sex denoted, but how is not stated.

SUNDAYS.—Used for service only.

Best thanks to the Rev. J. H. Hughes Hallett, Rector.

WESTERHAM.

ST. MARY.

8 Bells.

- I., 30½-in. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1837
 II., 31-in. Same.
 III., 34-in. Same.
 IV., 36-in. Same.
 V., 38½-in. Same.
 VI., 41-in. THOMAS MEARS LONDON FOUNDER 1837
 VII., 45-in. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1837

VIII., 48½-in.

G MEARS FOUNDER LONDON
THE GIFT OF GEORGE LEWIS VICAR 1722
RECAST 1858

The curfew was rung here at 8 p.m. until about sixty years ago. The "Pancake" bell was discontinued about the same time.

Passing bell rung. Tellers—three strokes for man, two for woman. A smaller bell used for children.

SUNDAYS.—A single bell rung at 8 a.m. Bells chimed for service.

Peals at Easter, Whitsuntide, and on New Year's Eve.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. H. C. Bartlett.

WESTGATE.

ST. JAMES.

1 Bell.

A small 4 cwt. tinkler by Gillett and Co., of Croydon.

ST. SAVIOUR.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

WESTMARSH.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

Modern church and modern bell.

WESTWELL.

ST. MARY.

4 Bells.

I., 33-in. IOHN MINAR MADE ME 1630

II., 34-in. ioseph hutch made me 1609

III., 36-in. Same. 1616

IV., 43-in. ihc ⊕ ihc

T. R. E. Item iiij ryngyng bells in the bell howse.

Item one bell over the Chauncell.

Item ij smalle hand bells.

No. 4 has a grotesque figure on the waist; it is no doubt by William Oldfeild, of Canterbury (see p. 59).

Death knell rung when notice received; also on morning of funeral.

SUNDAYS.—A bell rung at 8 a.m., called "Sermon" bell.

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. H. H. D'Ombraim.

WHITFIELD.

ST. PETER.

1 Bell.

I. Blank.

Inaccessible for measurement.

WHITSTABLE.

ALL SAINTS.

6 Bells.

I., 25½-in. SAMUEL KNIGHT MADE ME 1730

II., 26-in. Same.

III., 28½-in. Same.

IV., 29½-in. Same.

V., 32½-in. Same.

VI., 35-in. JAMES MARCH IOHN ANDREUS MICHEAL GOAT-
HAM C W 1730**WICKHAM BREAUX.**

ST. ANDREW.

6 Bells.

I., 27-in. SAMUELL KNIGHT FECIT 1728

II., 28-in. Same.

III., 29½-in. S K 1728

IV., 32-in. Same.

V., 34-in. S K 1728 IOHN BING IOHN EUERNDEN CH. WAR-
DENS

VI., 38-in. ALL = YOUNG RECTOR S K MADE ME 1728

WICKHAM (EAST).

ST. MICHAEL.

2 Bells.

I., 24½-in. ♣ IOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♣ 1660 ♣ W W ♣
C ♦ WARDEN

II., 27-in. Blank.

T. R. E. Item ij small bells of brasse suted in the steple.
"on sacryng bell and one hand bell sold."**WICKHAM (WEST).**

ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

5 Bells.

I., 29½-in. GLORIA ♣ DEO ♣ IN ♣ EXCELSIS ♣ 1640 ♣ B ♣ E

II., 31-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1857

III., 33½-in. ♣ O ♣ IOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ MEE ♦ 1669 ♣
EDWARD ♦ WOODEN ♣

♣ CHVRCH ♦ WARDEN ♣ ♣ WH ♣ CH ♣ ♣ ♣

- IV., 37-in. BRIANVS ♥ ELDREDGE ♥ ME ♥ FECIT ♥ 1624
 V., 42-in. GLORIA ♣ DEO ♣ IN ♣ EXCELSIS ♣
 BRYANVS ♣ ELDRIDGE ♣ MADE ♣ MEE 1640
 T. R. E. Item iiij grete bells suted in the steple and a Saints bell of brasse.

Nos. 1, 4, and 5 are from the Chertsey foundry (see p. 87).

Passing bell rung. Age denoted by size of bell used. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female.

A half-muffled peal after the funeral of any church official or of a ringer.

SUNDAYS.—Bells chimed for service—three chimes of five minutes each. On the great festivals the bells are rung.

Peals on New Year's Eve, Queen's Birthday and Coronation, and on 29th May and 5th November.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. H. B. Roberts.

WILLESBOROUGH.

ST. MARY.

6 Bells.

- I., 27-in. JOHN JAMES HORATIO PENNINGTON
 LATE SPARROW MA RECTOR
 HENRY BLACKBURN } CHURCH WARDENS
 GEORGE ANDREWS } EASTER DAY 1886
 LLEWELLINS & JAMES
 BRISTOL
- II., 30-in. JOHN SEDDY CH. WARDEN LESTER PACK & CHAPMAN OF
 LONDON FECIT 1769
- III., 31½-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME Ⓢ 1605
- IV. 34-in. Same.
- V., 38-in. WILLIAM FLINTSTONE CW IOSEPHVS HATCH ME
 FECIT Ⓢ 1625 RW
- VI., 40½-in. GILES MASTERS CW IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT
 1623
- T. R. E. Item fower great bells in the Steple.
 Item iij small bells called Sacryng bells.
 Item one bell being called a hand bell stollen out of the wyn-
 dowe of the church.

The present No. 2, prior to its recasting in 1769, was inscribed the same as Nos. 3 and 4.

WILMINGTON.

ST. MICHAEL.

3 Bells.

- I., 28-in. WILLIAM LAND MADE ME 1618
 II., 30-in. CHRISTOPHER O HODSON O MADE O ME O 1685
 O O O
 III., 31½-in. WILLIAM LAND MADE ME 1636

T. R. E. Item iiij bells suted of brasse in the Steple
 One procession bell and a saints bell of brasse presented to be
 stollen.

In 1774 the bells were as they are now.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received.

A bell tolled before funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Bells chimed for five minutes half an hour before service, and
 one bell rung for last five minutes.

Best thanks to Vicar, the Rev. R. Jamblin.

WINGHAM.

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

8 Bells.

- I., 28-in. BEN : PARLETT R : PHELPS MADE ME 1720
 II., 29-in. R : PHELPS FECIT 1720
 III., 32-in. Same.
 IV., 34½-in. R : PHELPS MADE ME 1720
 V., 37-in. Same.
 VI., 39-in. Same.
 VII., 43-in. PROSPERITY AND HAPPYNESS TO ALL OUR
 WORTHY BENEFACTORS R : PHELPS FECIT
 1720
 VIII., 48-in. THE REVEREND W : NEWTON CURAT : T : WIN-
 TER W : EAST CHURCHWARDENS R : PHELPS
 MADE ME 1720

WITTERSHAM.

ST. JOHN.

5 Bells.

- I., 34-in. IOSEPHUS CARTER ME
 FECIT 1609
 II., 36-in. Same.

III., 39½-in. Same, and the following *incised* below :

R THOMAS ODIARNE R IEREMY ODIARNE R
M M M M

ISAAKE ODIARNE GAVE THIS BELL 1609

□ (Fig. 42)

IV., 43½-in. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1808

V., 46¾-in. IOHN † WILMAR † MADE † ME † IB † GF † CW 1629

T. R. E. Item v gret bells and ij hand bells.

The frame will take six bells. It would be a decided improvement to add a 32-in. treble to this excellent heavy peal.

Death knell rung as soon as notice is given. Tellers for sex probably as usual—3 × 3 for man, 3 × 2 for woman, 3 × 1 for child.

This is repeated at 8 on morning of funeral.

SUNDAYS.—A bell rung at 8 a.m. This is also rung on Saints' days and other week-days when there is going to be service—a somewhat quaint combination of ancient "matins" and modern "warning" bell.

For services, bells chimed, except on the great festivals, when they are rung.

Peals on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Easter Day, Whitsun Day, Ascension Day, Queen's Birthday, and last night of year.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. S. H. Parkes.

WOODCHURCH.

ALL SAINTS.

6 Bells.

I., 31-in. JN^O CLARKE JUN^R & GABRIELL RICHARDS CH:
WARDENS LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT
1755

II., 33-in. ioseph hatch made me ☉ 1608

III., 35-in. Same.

IV., 38-in. IOSEPH HATCH MADE ME ☉ 1608

V., 42-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ☉ 1623

VI., 45-in. JOHN CLARKE JUN^R GABRILL RICHARDS CH:
WARDENS 1755 LESTER & PACK FECIT

WOODLANDS.

ST. MARY.

1 Bell.

Modern church with presumably one modern bell.

WOODNESBOROUGH. ST. MARY.

5 Bells.

I., 32-in. ♣ ○ ○ ○ ○ CHRISTOPHER * HODSON ♣ IOHN *
 HODSON * MADE * ME * 1676
 RICHARD * PORDAGE * RICHARD * NEAME *
 CHVRCH * WARDENS ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

II., 34-in. Same.

III., 36-in. Same.

IV., 40-in. Same.

V., 44-in. Same.

I have credited this church with five bells, rather unfairly, perhaps, for No. 3 of the ring lies in pieces on the belfry floor. The second also is cracked.

WOOLWICH.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

8 Bells.

I., 27½-in. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1821
 II., 28-in. Same.
 III., 30½-in. Same.
 IV., 31¾-in. Same.
 V., 34-in. Same.
 VI., 35½-in. Same.
 VII., 39-in. Same.
 VIII., 42½-in. Same.

HUGH FRASER RECTOR

WILLIAM ROFF }
 PETER MORGAN } CHURCH WARDENS

T. R. E. Item iij bells of bell mettell suted hanging in the Steple there.
 Item j little Saints bell of brasse hanging in the saide steple.

HOLY TRINITY.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ST. JOHN.

1 Bell.

I., 27-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1846

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

Inscriptions.

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WOOLWICH.

DOCK-YARD CHAPEL.

1 Bell.

I., 24½-in. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1778

ST. GEORGE (Garrison Chapel).

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

ROYAL ARSENAL CHAPEL.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

WOOLWICH (NORTH).

ST. JOHN.

1 Bell.

Presumably one modern bell.

WOOTTON.

ST. MARTIN.

1 Bell (formerly 3).

I., 32-in. *Joseph Hatch made me* ☉ 1629

Mr. Faussett (1758) states that the other two bells "were sold not long ago in Order to raise money for y^e Repairing & beautifying y^e Church."

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received. Use rather peculiar—for a man the bell is tolled³ in triplets, while for a woman double strokes, and for a child single strokes are used.

Bell tolled before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Chimed for services.

Rung for vestry meetings.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. R. N. Durrant.

WORMSHILL.

ST. GILES.

4 Bells.

I. NAYLOR VICKERS & C^O 1863

II., 25½-in. R PHELPS FECIT 1718

III., 27-in. THOMAS DVTNALL CHVRCH WARDEN : R : PHELPS
FECIT 1719

IV., 31½-in. NAYLOR VICKERS & C^O 1863

Treble and tenor are steel bells.

Passing bell rung as soon as notice received.

Bell tolled for half an hour before funerals.

SUNDAYS.—Bell chimed for ten minutes, then two separate bells for five minutes each.

A bell rung for vestry.

No ringing for some years, tower unsafe.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. H. Newport.

WORTH.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

2 Bells.

I., 24-in. JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1881
 OLD BELL CAST 1760 RECAST 1881 E. GENT ENGINEER

II., 26-in. Same, except date of old bell, which is 1675.

The former bells had the following inscriptions :

I. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1760
 II. ♣ IOHN ♢ HODSON ♢ MADE ♢ ME ♢ 1675 ♣ ○ ○ ○ C H
 ○ ○ ○
 ♣ RALPH ♢ PHILLPOOT ♢ CHVRCH ♢ WARDEN ♣ ○ ○ ○
 ○ ○ ○

In 1758 the treble bore the following inscription :
 Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis.

WOULDHAM.

ALL SAINTS.

4 Bells.

I., 29-in. ioseph hatch made me ① 1624
 II., 31½-in. Same.
 III., 34-in. Same.
 IV., 37½-in. IOSEPHVS HATCH ME FECIT ① 1624

T. R. E. Item there remaynet thre bells in the steppell.
 And a sants bell y^t is bassellyd awaye by M^r Jhon mon beeng
 then person.

PASSING BELL.—Age indicated by size of bell used. Tellers—3 × 3 for male, 3 × 2 for female ; then toll for about ten minutes.

On day of burial a bell tolled for a few minutes at noon, and again for a quarter of an hour before the funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Only chimed for service.

Early morning peals on Easter Day, Christmas Day, Ascension Day, the first day of the New Year, and on Accession Day.

A very excellent set of ringers' rules.

Best thanks to the Rector, Rev. C. G. Andrewes.

WROTHAM.

ST. GEORGE.

8 Bells.

I., 29½-in. ALTHOUGH I AM BOTH LIGHT & SMALL: I WILL BE HEARD
ABOVE YOU ALL: T: LESTER & T: PACK FECIT

1754

II., 30-in. AT PROPER TIMES OUR VOICES WE WILL RAISE: IN SOUND-
ING TO OUR BENEFACTORS PRAISE

T: LESTER & T: PACK FECIT 1754

III., 31-in. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD: THOMAS
LESTER & THO^S PACK FECIT 1754

IV., 33-in. OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFULL SOUND MAKE HILLS AND
VALLEYS ECHO ROUND LESTER & PACK FECIT 1754

V., 36-in. YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE YOUR HEALTH AND HAPPY-
NESS. THOMAS LESTER & THO^S PACK FECIT
1754

BE SOBER MERRY WISE: AND YOU'LL THE SAME POSSESS.

VI., 38½-in. TO HONOUR BOTH OF GOD AND KING OUR VOICES SHALL IN
CONSORT RING THOMAS LESTER & THO^S PACK FECIT
1754

VII., 43-in. IN WEDLOCK BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN, WITH HANDS YOUR
HEARTS UNITE. SO SHALL OUR TUNEFUL TONGUES
COMBINE. TO LAUD THE NUPHIAL RITE

THOMAS LESTER & THOMAS PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1754

VIII., 48½ in. THE REV^D DOCTOR JOHN POTTER RECTOR FICH^D FULLJAMES
& W^M WELCH CH. WARDENS 1754

THOMAS LESTER & THOMAS PACK OF LONDON FECIT

SUNDAY RINGING.—Peals at 7 and 8 a.m. ("Matins" and "Mass" bells),
and again at 1 p.m. Ringing before services.

Ringing on Christmas morning, and on New Year's Eve.

A bell for vestry.

Best thanks to Rector, the Rev. Canon W. F. Erskine Knollys.

II. The gift of the Town of Wye R. Phelps Londini fecit me 1734

III. and IV. Robertus Mot me fecit 1594

V. VI. and VIII. Robertus Mot me fecit 1593

VII. R. Phelps made me 1709

No. VII. was broken by the fall (of the steeple in 1685). The treble has on it the arms and crest of Sawbridge. Nos. III. IV. V. VI. and VIII. have all of them the arms of Kempe, with many quarterings.

The curfew is rung at 8 p.m. every evening from 29th September till 25th March.

Death knell very peculiar. Three times ten strokes for a male, twice fifteen for a female. Tenor for adults, 5th bell for children.

Bell tolled for half an hour before funeral. A muffled peal for a ringer.

SUNDAYS.—A bell at 8 a.m., and again at 1 p.m. For services chime fifteen minutes, then toll 2nd bell fifteen minutes.

A bell for vestry meetings.

Ringin on the Great Church Festivals, New Year's Eve, Accession and Coronation Days, and on 11th October (old Michaelmas Day).

The bell frame bears the inscription: "John Brovmfield made this frame 1709."

Very many thanks to the Rev. J. H. Dixon, Vicar.

WYMENSWOULD.

ST. MARGARET.

1 Bell.

I., 25½-in. THO I AM BUT SMALL I WILL BE HEARD AMONG
YOU ALL 1749

Death knell rung the morning after death.

Ring for five or six minutes before funeral.

SUNDAYS.—Used for services only.

And for the vestry meeting on Lady Day.

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. J. McKee.

Bell probably, from the inscription, a second-hand one.

YALDING.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

6 Bells.

I., 32½-in. P W 1696

II., 35-in. P W 1696

III., 37½-in. P W 1696

IV., 40-in. P W 1697

- V., 43½-in. THE REV^d IOHN WARD VICAR STEPHEN & HENRY GROOMBRIDGE
CH · WARDENS 1759 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT
VI., 48-in. ROBERT COX CLEMENT ELIOTT CHVRCHWARDENS
MADE BY PHILIP WIGHTMAN 1696

Death knell rung as soon as notice received, but not after sunset. Tellers at commencement—3 × 3 for a male, 3 × 2 for a female; then raise and set tenor. After an interval of one minute the bell is struck twice and set, and so on during each minute for the space of half an hour, then lower bell.

On day of burial, this is repeated at 7.30 a.m. Before funeral tenor tolled; half minute strokes for half an hour, until procession is in sight, then chimed until arrival at church gate.

SUNDAY.—Two bells chimed or rung at 8 a.m. ("Mass" bell). For services, bells rung or chimed at intervals until ten minutes before, then 5th bell for five minutes, and treble for the last five.

Peals at 5.30 a.m. on Christmas Day and Whitsun Day. A half-muffled peal at intervals on Good Friday. Ring on New Year's Eve. An early peal on Queen's birthday.

Within living memory a bell was chimed on Sundays and Saint's days at 7 a.m. ("Matins" bell), followed by the peal on two at 8, as at present.

The following entry, as to the recasting in 1696, is in the parish registers:

Yal ding bells were Hanged, Nov^r 30th, 1696. The Bell Hanger to have £19; he finding wheel & stock for treble, the Parish the rest.

The Weight of the Bells:

	Cwt.	qr.	lb.
Imp. The Tennor.	18	01	15
the Fifth.	14	00	13
Fourth.	11	01	19
Third.	09	01	19
Second.	08	00	09
First.	06	02	04
y ^e Tot:	67	03	23
The 6 Clappers weig:	01	03	00

The founder for casting to have 20s. per Hundred, for all new Mettle he is to be allow^d £6 10 shillings p^r Cwt.

We had 60 c. of o^r own mettall.

Very many thanks to the Rev. D. Lamplugh, Vicar.

Inscriptions.

447

YALDING.

ST. MARGARET.

1 Bell.

I., 22-in. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1848

Death knell tolled as soon as notice received. About fifty strokes.

Tolled also before funerals.

Rung for services.

Thanks to Vicar, the Rev. F. F. Starbuck.

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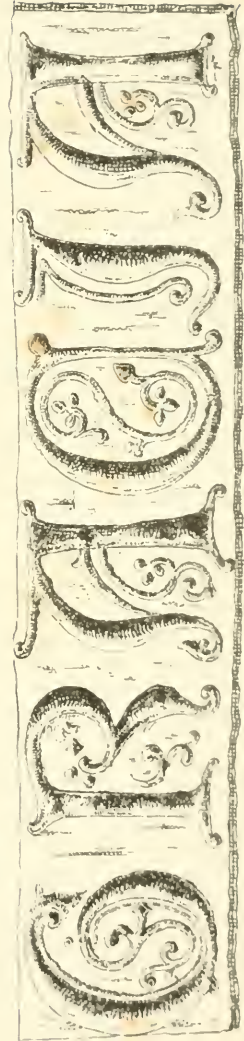
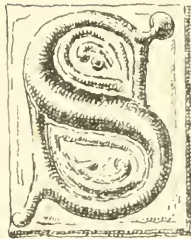
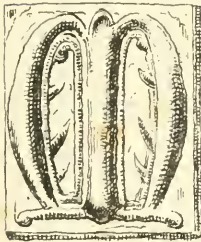
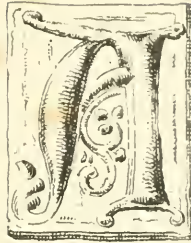
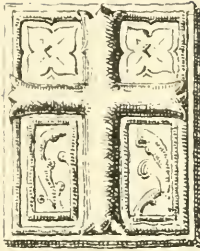
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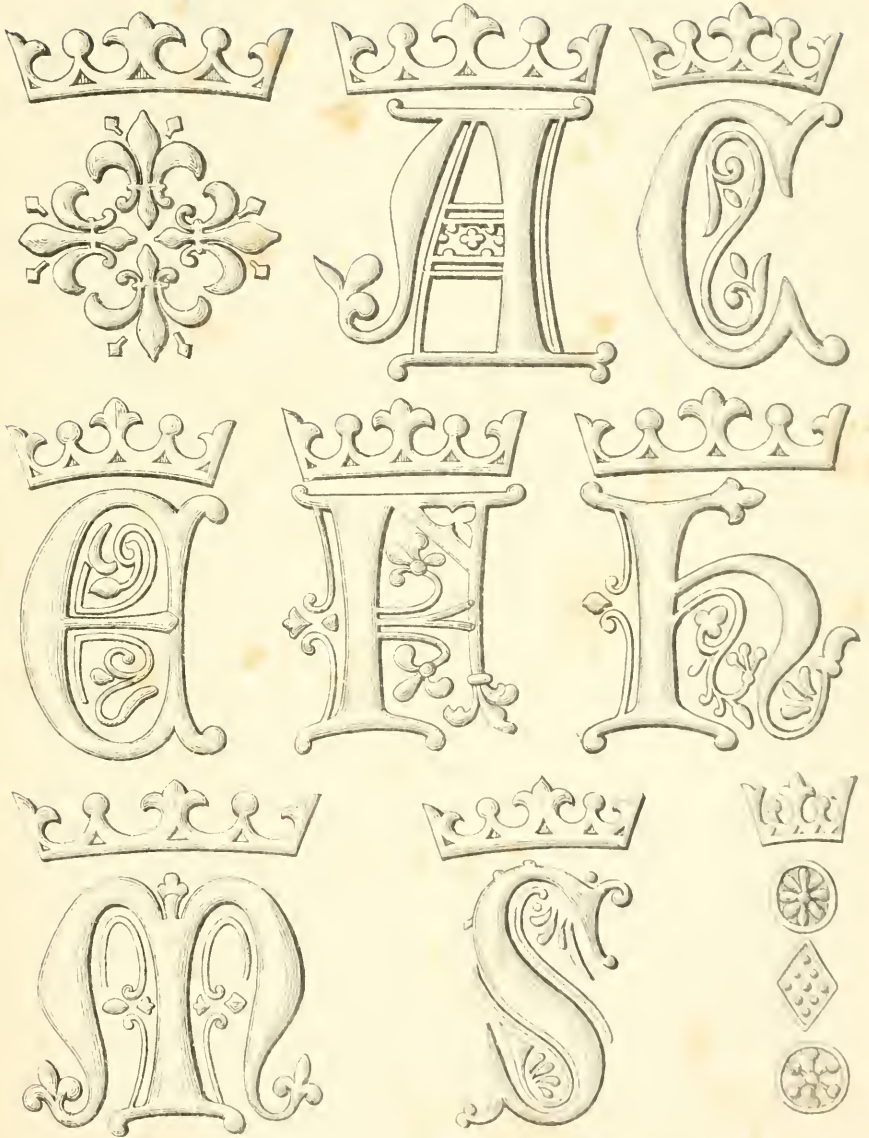


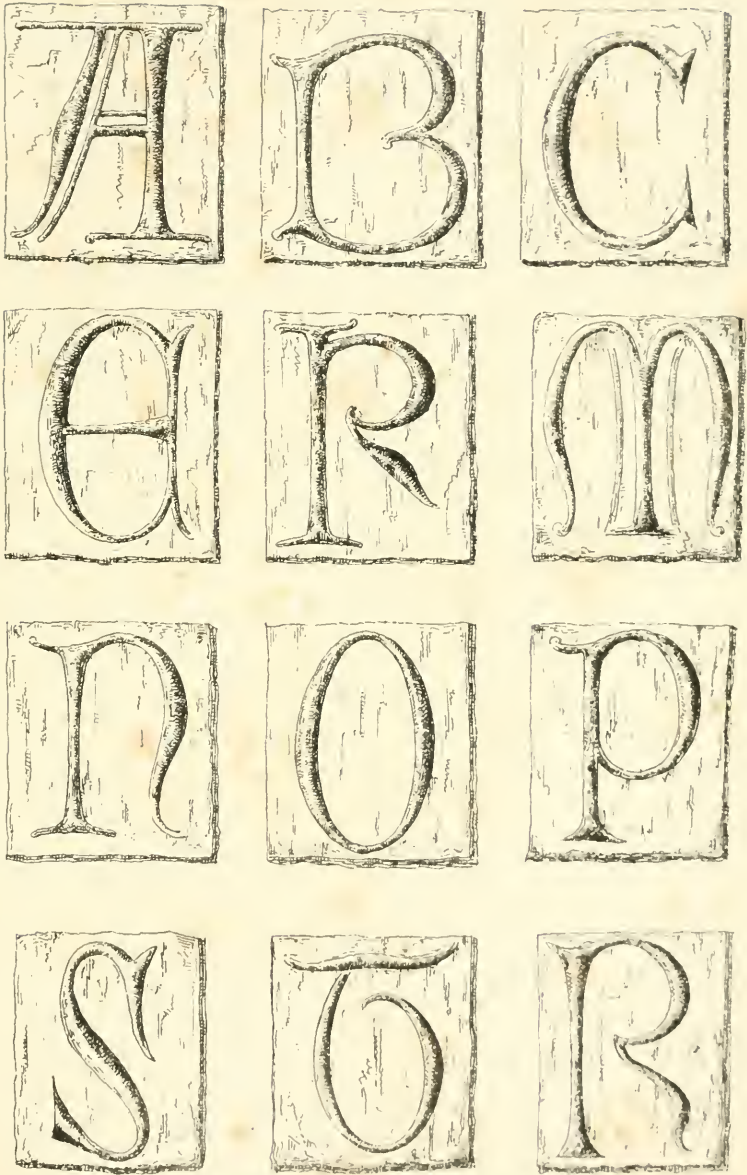
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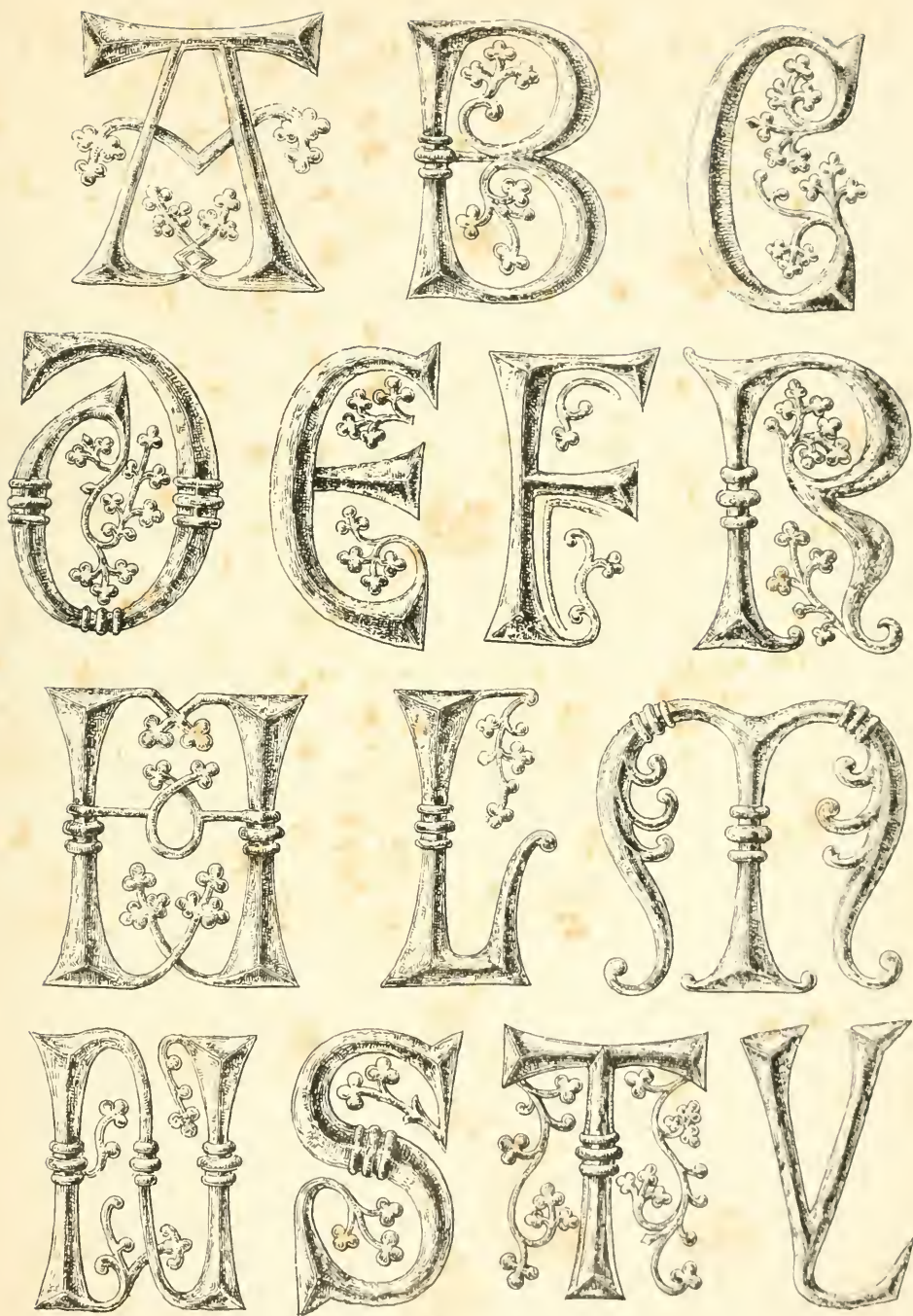
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